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The Development of Cross-Sex Friendships: An In-Depth Look at Rawlins' Model of Friendship Development

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An In-Depth Look at Rawlins' Model of Friendship Development

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Abstract

The following study examines the development of three cross-sex friendships through in-depth interviews. The development of cross-sex friendship has been neglected in much of the research, and Rawlins' Model of Friendship Development has been assumed to fit the development of cross-sex friendships. This study compares the development of these friendships to the friendship development model. The results show that much of the development of cross-sex friendships has characteristics similar to Rawlins' model, yet the model does not address all the developmental issues cross-sex friends encounter. Limitations to the study and suggestions for future research are presented.

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The Development of Cross-Sex Friendships:
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Review of Literature

Introduction

As a young adult in today's society, a person may find that their friendships consist of both males and females. To many youth, this is normal. However, others have never had a close friend of the other sex. How do males and females know with whom they should form relationships? According to social construction theory, Gergen (1985) says that people learn through social interaction and that through these interactions, people can describe, explain, or account for the world.

Children are often socialized to play with other children of their own sex. Those who do not conform may endure ridicule or teasing from same-sex friends or even adults. The society is very gender segregated throughout the early years of growing up. During this time children learn accepted norms or rules they are expected to follow including the rules regarding with whom they are "supposed" to play. This segregation is seen in sports teams, clubs such as Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, and can even be seen in toys (pink for girls, blue or black for boys).

However, there has been a shift in the socialization of many youth. With sports teams becoming co-ed, the uni-sex toys, or the strong support toward equality, friendships are forming between male and female children creating a bond that will last some of them their whole lives. Many adults are proving that these friendships have longevity. So, why has this relationship not been thoroughly studied?

Historically males and females formed a bond for only two reasons, for courtship or kinship and both of these reasons fit social norms (Bell, 1981). However, as males and females have increasingly begun working together and interacting socially together, interpersonal research has found a “new” relationship forming between males and females, friendship. Because friendship is a central part of interpersonal structures, researchers from many disciplines have studied it. Friendship is often an “anchor” in our lives that is different from all our other relationships. However, it is rare that friendship is “celebrated” or recognized as an important relationship in American society (Pogrebin, 1987).

Unfortunately, it was not until recent years that the research focused on cross-sex friendships as a legitimate relationship. The belief from society has been that sex will “interfere” with a friendship between men and women. American society pushes for males and female to form an exclusive “romantic” bond rather than a friendship. But the emergence of cross-sex friends presents the age-old question “can men and women *really* be *just* friends?” I believe the answer is yes, and I think the relationships are unlike any other human relationship.

Although many researchers compare cross-sex friendship to same-sex friendship, it is not the same. Similarly, cross-sex friendship is compared to romantic relationships, yet this does not accurately portray the unique bond either. However, recognizing the relationship as a unique and beneficial relationship to those involved allows some insight to be gained. This study will look at cross-sex friendship as the unique bond it is by studying three sets of cross-sex friends. First, a brief overview of social construction theory as a frame of study is presented.

Social Construction

Social construction theory attempts to explain the process by which knowledge is created and assumed as reality (Douglas, 1970). Social construction theory says that when people create and associate meaning with behaviors, objects, and language then the interaction between those people will reflect that meaning (Berger & Luckmann, 1966). In short, significance is created because of social interaction, and the consequences are a result of created meaning in the form of behaviors, objects, and language.

According to social construction theory, human reality is constructed through a multipart process of social interactions between people. In the continuous process of social interaction, people learn to act in consistent and predictable patterns based on the meanings that they ascribe to behaviors, objects, and language (Douglas, 1970). Constructing reality involves a constant and shared creation and association of meaning with behavior, objects, and language. Further, social construction is context specific where the meaning of behavior, objects, and language may change if the situation changes (Gergen, 1985).

Nature of the Relationship

For almost every study on friendship, there seems to be a different definition of what friendship is. Booth and Hess (1974) defined friendship as a relationship between two people who are not related while Rawlins (1992) claims friendship is both a “voluntary and a personal” relationship characterized by “equality and mutual involvement” to create a positive affect (p. 23). Although these and many other definitions exist (see also Allan, 1989; Afifi & Faulkner, 2000; O’Meara, 1989;

Pogrebin, 1987) for the purposes of simplicity and uniformity, the broad cross-sex definition as defined by Monsour, Harris, Kurzweil, and Beard (1994) will be used for this report. Monsour et al. (1994) defined cross-sex friendship as a relationship between members of the other sex with the exclusion of romantic, marital, and family relationships. Although these friendships are characterized as non-romantic, they do not always exclude sexuality and passion (O'Meara, 1989). Cross-sex friendship can occupy two roles in a person's life, one of friendship and one of a potentially romantic relationship (Afifi & Faulkner, 2000).

Although cross-sex friendships were found to be rare by several researchers (Allan, 1989; Bell, 1981), others have found that they tend to develop usually between co-workers (Fine, 1986), single men and women, or if "sanctioned by one or both friends' spouse(s) or romantic partners" (Rawlins, 1993, p. 61). Some parties report a short sexual adventure or romantic attempt before becoming friends (Rubin, 1985). Several other factors contribute to the formation of cross-sex friendships such as proximity (Pogrebin, 1987; Smilansky, 1991), similarity (Pogrebin, 1987), age (Winstead & Derlega, 1986), and self-disclosure (Pogrebin, 1987; Rawlins, 1982, 1992). In addition to those, employment, marital or parental status, or some major life event (Bruess & Pearson, 1997) usually influences adult (hood) friendships.

Rawlins (1993) describes friendship and romantic love as similar in that both relationships are "privately negotiated" between the partners (p. 51). However, the cross-sex friendship has characteristics that differ significantly from romantic relationships. Adams and Blieszner (1989) identified four major characteristics of cross-sex friendships to be "permanence, exclusiveness, degree of social regulation,

and salience of emotional expression” (p. 204). Because of these characteristics, Metts, Cupach, and Imattori (1992) argue that the bonds of cross-sex friendship are often stronger than the ties of many dating relationships. These bonds need to be strong due to the pressure upon this relationship to conform to the norms of society and become romantic.

As females continue to enter the work setting, males and females have easier access to one another and are better able to form relationships of a nonromantic type (Fehr, 1996). Although both sexes have equal access for forming cross-sex friendships, males report more cross-sex friends than females (Booth & Hess, 1974; Elkins & Peterson, 1993; Rubin, 1985). Many males also report finding it difficult to develop cross-sex friendships free from romantic involvement compared to their female counterparts (Floyd & Voloudakis, 1999; Rawlins, 1982, 1992, 1993). Often males feel that they are expected to initiate a cross-sex bond because of their role in society as the more “powerful gender” (Jones, Bloys, & Wood, 1990). Overcoming these stereotypical sex-roles is a challenge confronting many partners in cross-sex friendships (Leaper, 1998).

Messman, Canary and Hause (2000) found that only 20–30% of the cross-sex friends surveyed reported a history of sexual involvement with their cross-sex friend. Some partners reported having to “get sex out of the way” to be sure the romantic relationship would not work before beginning a platonic friendship (Rubin, 1985). Allan (1989) believes this is due to the pressure society put on male/female relationships to have a sexual interest rather than as a straightforward friendship.

Pogrebin (1987) found that sometimes a friendship is maintained after a failed romantic relationship because the female sustains the friendship regardless of who ends the romantic relationship, but males may reject a friendship if the female was the one to end the romantic relationship. Regardless of a romantic attempt or not, cross-sex friendships do have the potential for sexuality (O'Meara, 1989), sexual teasing or flirtation (Afifi & Faulkner, 2000) because of the ambiguous nature of the friendship (Monsour et al., 1994).

Age is a large determining factor of cross-sex friendships. For many adolescents, cross-sex friendship is considered a learning stage in developing sexual relationships (Bukowski, 1996) and is often considered more intimate by the partners than same-sex friendships (McBride & Field, 1997). Rawlins (1992) believes the transition from mostly same-sex friendships to cross-sex friendships begins in the seventh grade for females and in the ninth grade for males. Although, Reeder (2000) found that a young cross-sex relationship is likely to be called a "crush" rather than a friend.

Cross-sex friendships are more common in the younger population (Allan, 1989; Rubin, 1985). Although statistically, both sexes report fewer friends in old age (Adams & Blieszner, 1989), Berndt and Ladd (1989) found the number of cross-sex friendships increase (to a degree) as people age. However, Adams and Blieszner (1989) believe the lack of cross-sex friendships in the elderly population is due to the way society pushed gender segregation rather than integration in their generations.

Gender stereotypes in cross-sex friendships have very important "implications for... solidarity, hierarchy and viability" when interpreting behavior (McWilliams &

Howard, 1993, p. 198). Males tend to characterize cross-sex relationships as closer (Elkins & Peterson, 1993; Sapadin, 1988), more important, more exciting, and less competitive than their same-sex friendships (Sapadin, 1988) and have a greater emotional dependence than females on their cross-sex friendship (Duck, 1973; Rawlins, 1982, 1992). Males also report that they confide more in their best female friend rather than their best male friend (Rawlins, 1993). Young males look to their cross-sex friendships for emotional gratification, ego support, tenderness and vulnerability more than do females (Rawlins, 1992; Rubin, 1985). Males with significant females in their life are happier than males without a close female confidant (Pogrebin, 1987). Elkins and Peterson (1993) found that friendships with females were more satisfying to both sexes, stating that females preferred their same-sex friendships when discussing sensitive topics or personal problems. Early researchers of cross-sex friendship claimed females do not gain any “boosts” from their friendships with men (Pogrebin, 1987). However, another early researcher contends that male friendships allow females to reach a “tougher side that is kept under wraps in relationships with women” (Rubin, 1985, p. 174).

Unique Functions and Challenges

The benefits to cross-sex friendships vary depending on the relational rules the partners define for the friendship. Current research assumes that cross-sex friends who experience sexual desire for a friend stop before engaging in the activity until the relational rules allow for such a change (Afifi & Faulkner, 2000). Several college cross-sex friendships studied recently report that some cross-sex friends (51%) will

have or had sex with a friend that they had no intention of dating (Afifi & Faulkner, 2000). Often these types of friendships are described as “friends with benefits.”

Several functions of cross-sex friendships are that friends seem to help each other “decode” the behavior of the other sex or use each other as “escorts without commitment” (Pogrebin, 1987). Rawlins (1992) found that cross-sex friends are more likely to discuss “school, friends, family, sexuality, the future in general, professional future, and unemployment than dating partners” (p. 76). In addition, some friends use cross-sex friendship as a means to get to know someone better before beginning a romantic relationship (Rawlins, 1992). Pogrebin (1987) states that women use friendship with men as a way of boosting their “feminine charm” and men use friendship with women to boost their “male ego”.

Challenges and obstacles are present in every type of relationship. O’Meara (1989) identified four challenges significant in cross-sex friendships to be the emotional bond challenge, the sexual challenge, the equality challenge and the audience challenge. The emotional bond challenge is described as the need for the partners to arrive at some mutual agreement about what type of bond exists and deals with the probability of seeing the bond as a romantic love rather than one of an emotional bond. The sexual challenge is described as overcoming society’s condition to view the opposite sex as potential romantic partners. The equality challenge, as Monsour et al. (1994) describes it, is that the males have more resources to barter with than females, presenting a possibility that males have the upper hand in a cross-sex friendship. The audience challenge is described as how the friends must present the correct picture of the relationship to relevant audiences (Monsour, et. al., 1994).

Monsour et al. (1994) determined that these particular challenges were not major problems in the majority of friendships that they researched. However, these challenges, although not directly studied based on O'Meara's (1989) predictions, are shown in research from other studies. The "sexual challenge" is an issue unique to heterosexual cross-sex friendships and therefore has been focused on more than any other aspect.

Sexual activity blurs relational boundaries and changes the relationship in a way that it does not fit the definition of friendship because the cultural norms suggest, "sexually active parties are expected to become emotionally involved, possessive, and committed" (Reeder, 2000, p. 333). There is little social support given to cross-sex friendships because of this issue of sexuality (Allan, 1989). Rawlins (1992) found cross-sex friendship to be "a less valued social achievement" that is difficult for outsiders to understand and accept as platonic (p. 75). Although these friendships lack the prominence of same-sex and romantic relationships, they still provide the previously stated advantages that are hard to obtain in other relationships (Monsour et al., 1994).

Many cross-sex friends experience a social pressure to conform to a more typical romantic involvement (Laursen, 1993; Rawlins, 1992), and some research has found that these relationships are just a pre-cursor to a romantic relationship (Adams & Blieszner, 1989; Allan, 1989; Messman, Canary, & Hause, 2000; Pogrebin, 1987; Monsour et al., 1994; Rawlins, 1992). The advantages to friendship before a romantic relationship have been evaluated (Rawlins, 1993) but the motives for remaining platonic can outweigh the benefits to changing the relationship (Messman et al.,

2000). Research evaluating cross-sex friendships that were formed after a romantic relationship (Messman et al., 2000; Pogrebin, 1987; Rubin, 1985) found that the cross-sex friendship was characterized by many partners as being more open (Rawlins, 1992), accepting (Metts et al., 1992), and equal (McWilliams & Howard, 1993) than the former romantic one. Because friendships emphasize equality (Rawlins, 1993), the partners often experience a more freestanding relationship without the barriers of exclusivity.

As stated by Rawlins (1992), romantic relationships are held as a higher achievement than cross-sex friendships and can sometimes replace the cross-sex friend for emotional needs. Cross-sex friendships occur more frequently among single adults than any other group (Adams & Blieszner, 1989; Rawlins, 1992, 1993) because they are often perceived as a threat to a marriage (Bell, 1981; Bruess & Pearson, 1997; Rawlins, 1982, 1992, 1993; Rubin, 1985). As Bell (1981) states, “social norms of friendship stress similarities and relationships that support the institution of marriage: adults’ cross-sex needs can and should be met only through marriage” (p. 97). Periodical gatherings or sharing of activities with cross-sex friends may be tolerable in some marriages, but repeated contact is perceived negatively by most spouses (Bruess & Pearson, 1997). However, this does not mean that friendships do not exist among cross-sex friends where one or both of the partners are married.

Development of Cross-Sex Friendships

Many researchers for many years have studied friendship as one may have discovered from the aforementioned research. The development of same-sex friendship has been a focus for many studies including Rawlins (1981) who created a

developmental theory of friendship that has become a resource for further studies on friendship. However, cross-sex friendship development has yet to be examined thoroughly enough to know if it fits the same model as same-sex friendship.

Rawlins (1981) identified seven stages of friendship development (including its deterioration) that address the entire course of the relationship. Because the borders between the stages are vague, the stages may not fit each friendship exactly. Some stages may be brief or long for specific friendships or a friendship may not complete all the stages. The stages identified by Rawlins (1981) are role-delimited interaction, friendly relations, moves-toward-friendship, nascent friendship, stabilized friendship, waning friendship, and post friendship. Five of the seven stages identifying the development are explained further.

Beginning with role-delimited interaction, Rawlins (1981) explains this stage as “non-interpersonal communication” governed by an individual’s role in society (p. 45). These encounters may occur based on proximity at work, home or school. The encounters typically consist of what Miller and Steinberg (as cited in Trenholm and Jensen, 1992) call cultural-level knowledge. Cultural-level knowledge consists of what is known about a person based on their culture. For instance, the married culture or the culture of being a teenager would be good examples. The frequent contact may allow people to move away from the social roles toward what Rawlins (1981) describes as a “mutual acknowledgement as individuals” opening the possibility of moving to the next stage, friendly relations (p. 45).

Friendly relations are “informal, personal and pleasant interactions that grow out of formal role relationships” (Rawlins, 1981). Although not all friendships follow

this pattern, in this stage individuals still remain in their social roles but allow for some of their opinions and personality to show. By showing this individuality, the interaction between the individuals becomes more casual, broad, or loose than the previous stage. This stage also allows and creates more spontaneity for both individuals.

The moves-toward-friendship stage is similar to friendly relations with the addition of “voluntary interaction outside of the formal role relationship” (Rawlins, 1981, p. 47). This aspect of the stage is the main characteristic of moves-toward-friendship. When the individuals choose to spend their “free” time together, the relationship has progressed to this stage. Throughout this stage, rules or “norms” that will govern the relationship are being formed and negotiated by the partners. It is also during this stage that the partners begin to develop a conception of what is right and wrong in society. This stage is also characterized by the partners’ disclosure of individual goals, plans, and fears. The partners form a commitment to each other based on this disclosure that continues to the next stage, nascent friendship.

Nascent friendship is the stage in which the “friendship is crystallized” (Rawlins, 1981, p. 50). This stage moves away from the social role expectations and relies more heavily on the norms established in the moves-toward-friendship stage. Rawlins (1981) refers to a “private morality” which is realized in this stage. This is when the partners realize the relationship has a privately constructed set of rules that are “not subject to societal judgements” (p. 50). Kurth (as cited in Rawlins, 1981) call this the “norms of propriety” which can be seen during this stage (p. 50). These norms of propriety further govern the friendship creating boundaries that create a

bond and a commitment to one another. The realization of intimacy and trust during this stage is described as a “honeymoon period” by Rawlins (1981, p. 51). This stage may last indefinitely for many friendships but requires much emotional investment to maintain the relationship at this level. Due to this, it usually tapers off or fluctuates before moving to the next stage, which is stabilized friendship.

In stabilized friendship, “voluntary interaction can be spread out more in time without a feeling of slighting each other” (Rawlins, 1981). The communication in this stage is comfortable, yet it still exhibits the uniqueness of the partners. Most friendships need to reach this point of stabilization because of the emotional demand of remaining in the nascent stage. A stabilized friendship allows for the possibility of the partners maintaining other such friendships without feeling they are neglecting the stabilized friendship. Because society does not establish formal rituals (i.e. Marriage, anniversaries, etc) for friends, friends must establish their own rituals within the friendship. However, meaningless to outsiders, the rituals serve a meaning for the friends. During this stage, confrontation is often a test to the commitment to the friendship. Often during the conflict, true feelings about each other surface allowing adjustments to be made within the relationship.

These five stages characterize friendship development using a broad theory. As thorough as this theory is, it is still a broad theory for friendship development. However, since cross-sex friendship development has not been studied as a unique relationship uncharacteristic to others, the rest of this research examines whether cross-sex friendship development is adequately explained by Rawlins’ developmental friendship theory.

After reviewing the literature, I believe that a large portion concerning the development has been ignored. The rest of this study will use Rawlins' developmental model as a basis of further study in the development of cross-sex friendship. The following research question is proposed for study:

RQ: Do cross-sex friends "fit" Rawlins' model of friendship development?

Through the process of answering this question, researchers can gain a better understanding of how cross-sex friendships are developed.

Method

Based on what has been studied thus far, the development of cross-sex friendships has been neglected as compared to the rest of the research regarding cross-sex friendships. Much of what has been done assumes that cross-sex friendships are formed similarly to romantic bonds or even same-sex friendship, but there is no research supporting this. Due to this lack of research, this study focuses on three specific cross-sex friendships and their development. This section will describe the methods used to conduct this study.

Interview Protocol

The interview protocol used for the individual interviews was developed based on Rawlins' (1981) explanation of each stage's characteristics. The questions were categorized based on these stages and grouped together for easier analysis (See Appendix A).

Participants

For the purpose of this study, cross-sex friendship was specifically defined as "males and females who are more than acquaintances but not romantically involved

and who are not related by kinship” (see Appendix A). Through this definition, volunteers were chosen who fit this description. Relationships not fitting this description were excluded.

From this literature review, a question emerges about how a cross-sex friendship is formed between a male and a female. Rawlins' (1981) has developed a broad model of friendship development, and the question presented regarding this study is, how well do cross-sex friends "fit" that model?

Data Collection

The participants of this study were three cross-sex friendship dyads composed of college students from a medium-size midwestern university. The participants' ages ranged from 19 to 23 years of age. The length of friendship ranged from nine months to ten years. Two of the six participants were currently involved in another romantic relationship; the other four were not romantically attached at the time of the study.

The participants were contacted through a previous cross-sex study. All participants were volunteers and were not paid for their involvement in the study. The only criterion for participation was that the dyads were not romantically involved with each other and did not intend to become romantically involved, and that both partners were willing participants. Sexual orientation could be either homosexual or heterosexual. One participant was homosexual; the other five participants were heterosexual.

Data was collected using in-depth interviews. Each individual was first interviewed alone and asked to respond to 23 questions (see Appendix A). These interviews were videotaped and transcribed. After the partners had been interviewed

individually, the dyad was brought together to describe the development of their friendship. This second interview was also videotaped for analysis and the same protocol was used for each dyad (see Appendix B).

Each individual interview lasted 15 to 35 minutes, while the dyadic interviews lasted 11 to 25 minutes. The separate interviews were designed to elicit information individuals remembered without being influenced by the answers of the partner. After having this information, the researcher had the dyad tell the "story" of how the two became friends in a free-form interview with the researcher asking follow-up questions occasionally. The interviews were conducted in a neutral setting, and anonymity and confidentiality was assured. The participants were offered a report of the findings.

To gain a more accurate understanding of the relationship, the partners were interviewed individually to avoid feeling awkward or uncomfortable in the presence of their partner and to encourage honesty. The individual interviews also allowed the researcher to better understand the relationship through each partners' view.

The interviews were scheduled according to the participants' schedules and all individual interviews with the exception of one dyad were within two days of each other. The joint interview was more difficult to schedule due to conflicting availability between the partners but all occurred within one week of the individual interviews. Each dyad was interviewed individually and jointly before continuing on to the next dyad.

Results

The results of these interviews were transcribed using the audiotapes or videotapes. The transcribed conversations are in Appendices C through K. The lines have been numbered for easy reference. Throughout the rest of this report, the appendix letter and line number(s) will be used to refer to the transcripts.

The interview protocol grouped together questions within the stages (See Appendix A). The responses were categorized and referred to based on the questions for each particular stage.

Reliability

From interviews with the individuals and the dyads, the results show a consistency in their stories. The partners repeat the same story describing the development both individually and collectively allowing for the conclusion that the results are reliable. Had the partners changed their stories after the individual interviews yet before or during the dyadic interview, the results would be unreliable.

The conclusions are supported through inter-coder reliability of four readers including the researcher. There is agreement that the results are reliable for this study.

Validity

The validity of the results can be seen through several means. First, the transcripts follow the tapes and the interview protocol. The interview protocol contains no researcher bias, instead addresses the model of friendship development (See Appendix A and B). Through these protocols, the questions clearly address the measurement of the results. The transcripts also show the researcher remained

consistent across the interviews and remained faithful to the protocol reaffirming the validity of the results (See Appendices C through K).

Discussion

Referring back to Rawlins' (1981) model of friendship development, friendships are developed through a series of interactions that lead to the formation of an interpersonal relationship. Using these three friendships to study this model, cross-sex friends develop similarly to same-sex friends with several differences. Because Rawlins' (1981) model is broad, it can be applied to many friendships to allow for some generalization. This means cross-sex friends may develop friendships through similar characteristics described for the role-delimited interaction, friendly relations, moves-toward-friendship, nascent friendship, and stabilized friendship stages (Rawlins, 1981).

Some characteristics allowing this similarity to be noticed are frequent contact, engaging in voluntary interaction, establishing rules and norms, feeling a sense of commitment to one another and establishing a sense of trust. However, the cross-sex friendships studied here describe several characteristics that do not fit in Rawlins' description of friendship development. These cross-sex friends describe the following characteristics that do not fit in the model a lack of perceived similarities, a higher trust level with their cross-sex friend than with many of their same-sex friends, and some form of initial physical attraction from one of the partners involved. They also attribute the closeness of the friendship to the propinquity to one another. Another difference was that in each of the friendships, explicitly or implicitly, the cross-sex friends report that the female disclosed first.

Similarities of Rawlins' Model

Beginning with role-delimited interaction, two of the dyads (Dyad 2 and 3) began interacting in some form of school setting in college. Dyad 1 began interacting through a mutual third party friendship. In these initial interactions, the participants describe "knowing of" the other person but not "knowing them". For example, M1 says,

M1: ...at first it was, like, okay. I know of her (.) and then we got to be better friends toward the end of the school year (C120-122).

Other individuals reported similar experiences regarding getting to know their cross-sex friend (D137; G57; H76-79; I80-81; and J86-87). This, according to Rawlins' (1981), is behavior that is directed by what role the individual plays in society or the situation. The roles these participants saw their partners in initially were those of another student or peer with the similar concerns and situations they are encountering or have encountered. The topics they discuss consisted of the basic information other students (college or middle school) discuss, how they did on a test, mutual acquaintances, and adjusting to new surroundings. F1 says about the topics her and M1 talked about,

F1: Well, I was the new kid, so, new to that area and everything, so, we'd talk a lot about that kind of stuff and how I liked it there... (D149-151)

Other dyads reported similar topics (E146-151; and F70-71). These topics may have lasted several weeks or months for some (Dyad 1) or only a short time for others (Dyad 2 and 3). Eventually each dyad described characteristics of Rawlins' (1981) friendly relations stage.

The friendly relations stage consists of moving away from the formal social role each participant may have occupied initially, that of student for these dyads, to a more individualistic and casual interaction. Two of the dyads may have been more readily motivated to initiate friendly relations because one or both partners were put in situations with which he/she was unfamiliar or lacked many friends or acquaintances (Dyad 1 and 3). The characteristics of this stage as showing more opinions and personality are most visible when M1 says,

M1: ... I don't know (.) "What bands you like," (.) ya know, just school stuff, "What'd you get on that test?" you know, (.) stuff like that... (C188).

Or, when M2 says,

M2: ...kinda, how high school was. Things like that (F104).

This stage is also visible when F2 describes chatting about movies and books they enjoyed or disliked (G121-128), and F3 reveals talking about family (J156) and majors (J165-168). These initial topics allowed the partners to gain some individual information about the other as a sort of foundation to continue building on.

The friends continue to explain other characteristics that "fit" Rawlins' (1981) model. However, the next two stages Rawlins defined are difficult to separate out for these particular dyads. The characteristics described by Rawlins for moves-toward-friendship and nascent friendship seem to blend together. During these two stages, disclosure and trust occur as well as developing relational norms. Because some of these characteristics occur simultaneously (trust and disclosure), the stages are difficult to separate. Nonetheless, all three of these dyads show characteristics of these two stages.

All three dyads reported having established trust with one another through one disclosing information and the other keeping the information private. Most felt that because they were able to keep secrets, they had established a sense of trust with one another. The best example of this is when M3 is describing what it was about F3 that he felt he could trust her. He states

M3: Hmm (pause) I don't know. (.) It was just the feeling that (.) you kinda let (.) you start off with small stuff talking about past relationships and whatnot. (.) You realize they haven't told anybody or probably don't even care that much but you start telling them more and more and they keep. (.) They still don't tell and they keep their mouth shut and you're like "Oh, okay." And it kinda just builds (.) I think (I215-220).

Trust is described similarly within the other dyads (D301-306; G202-204; J244-248).

M1 felt that because F1 protected him from something negative she could be trusted (C280-308). Also, the idea of "being there" for one another allowed the partners to feel a sense of trust. F1 describes her feelings of "being there" for M1 by saying,

F1: ...I've been there (.) with him (.) through everything with her everyday. Made him dinner, sat and watched him cry, everything a best friend would do (F433-435).

Others describe the feeling of having someone to confide in and knowing that the person will be there if needed (C387; D301-306; F272-273; G294-295; H426, 505-507; I224; J50-51,). When the other is not "there" for the partner in need, it causes dissonance. F1 shows this when describing how she felt she was there for M1 when he needed her but did not feel it was reciprocated when it was her "turn" (D435-438).

During this stage, norms were established as well. Norms regarding their sexual contact, disclosing, or keeping things from one another were just some of the norms mentioned. When the norms were broken, the relationship had to reaffirm or

revise the relational rules to adjust. M1 talks about several occasions the norms were broken and how F1 reacted to his violation of the norms

M1: ... when Lauren and I started dating we didn't tell anybody and we didn't tell F1 and she got real mad about that (.) So no big deal (.) but (.) then as the years here progressed and Lauren and I hung out a lot, and I didn't see F1 as much. She got mad about that... (C318-321).

M1: ...Not (.) Never ever. I think I might have accidentally touched her breast sometime (.) hey, I ,mean I'm talkin' like (.) totally like "whoops" you know, like, "I'm sorry." She's like "You just grabbed my boob!" It's just, like, "No I didn't (laugh) and she'd make fun of that, but (.) other than flat-out (snap) you know, (.) No. Never (C345-349).

F1 and Dyad 3 describe several other norms and violations they have dealt with in their friendships (D348-343; E449, 458, 590; J331-335; K196-205).

These examples show that all the dyads have the characteristics of the first four stages, but only one of the dyads has the characteristics of Rawlins' (1981) stabilized friendship stage. Dyad 1 described characteristics and behaviors unique to this stage.

M1: Once or twice a week. (.) And last semester it was more cause we had more classes together but she goes home on the weekends and she's only here on Wednesdays (.) and plus I'm in the office all the time, ya know, (.) we just don't (.) we just don't see each other as much. (C360-363).

This may be because Dyad 1 has had a friendship of ten years, and it has progressed to this stage of the model. The M1 describes the friendship as more intense and having more contact in the past implying it may have moved past the nascent friendship stage because of the amount of time and energy that stage requires (C166, 168, 201-202; E192, 197, 782-783). The individuals in Dyad 1 each described "rituals" they do together they called "fat nights."

M1: (laugh) Fat night yeah (.) that's, uh, after (.) after eating all day at Red Hot Revue (laugh)

F1: (laugh) We'd go to Duncan Donuts and eat more (laugh) I called it fat nights, which I think I forgot to say but, um, (.) when I'd be depressed about a guy or whatever (.) "M1" would always be good to go on fat nights and usually it was Duncan Donuts (.) and then sometimes afterwards we'd go to Taco Bell (.) One night (.) what did we do? Duncan Donuts, Taco Bell, McDonalds (laugh) and then back to Duncan Donuts. (.) It was bad. (E490-498)

The dyad had other rituals they described as well (C372-386; D399, 411; E384-391, 499-544) and reported more arguing than the other two dyads (C391-392, 561-562; D438-446, 621-622).

Although these characteristics "fit" Rawlins' (1981) description of the model of friendship development, there are other characteristics in these friendships not addressed, or that do not follow the stages described.

Differences of Rawlins' Model

For two of the three dyads, at least one of the partners was physically attracted to the other initially (Dyad 1 and 3; Dyad 2 consisted of one heterosexual and one homosexual). It may be by coincidence, but both of the males in Dyad 1 and 3 reported being attracted to their female friend before the friendship developed (C128; I98). This would support the idea that males initially develop a relationship based on the potential for a romantic relationship (Jones, Bloys, & Wood, 1990). They did not perceive reciprocal attraction from the female which may be a factor causing the relationship to form as a friendship rather than a romantic relationship (C134, 138; I102-103). This initial physical attraction was soon replaced with a friendship that formed rules governing behavior regarding sexual contact. F3 describes knowing M3 was attracted to her but set boundaries to maintain a friendship.

F3: ...after a while (.) it was kinda like, like, well ya know, we're such good friends, ya know. He just, he just kinda got over it (.) cause I was dating a guy

from back home when we first met still, so it was kinda like, (.) I wasn't exactly available and then by the time, ya know, anything could even come of it, ya know, we were kinda like, "Why should we date? We're such good friends now." (J109-114).

Similar situations were also discussed as occurring within Dyad 1's friendship and M3's description of Dyad 3's friendship (C129, 345-348; D320, 333; E264; I240-241, 259; J266; K265, 267, 293-301).

Rawlins (1981) describes interaction as a factor in the development of friendship. This is true for these friendships as well, but in addition, the dyads believe the fact they were close in propinquity to one another helped to maintain the relationship. F2 states,

F2: ...I know he's right here. It's not like he lives far away, I can just walk over to his place (G361-362).

F3 also feels they have gotten to know one another because they lived so close to each other.

F3: ...cause we lived so close to each other we'd see each other all the time (J86-87).

Several comments from other participants also supported this idea (E664-668, 729, 731, 848-854; I273-275, 416; K126-131). And because of this idea that the friendship has been formed based on this close propinquity, M1, Dyad 2 and M3 believe that the future of the relationship will vary depending upon the location of the partners (C578-579; F372-373, 378; G373-376; I415-423).

Within the friendly relations stage, Rawlins describes the individuals seeking commonalities and similarities with one another. Some of the cross-sex friends interviewed for this study report a lack of similarities and believe they had very little in common in the initial interactions.

M3: Honestly, I didn't. (.) At all. I didn't think we had very much in common at all besides somewhat similar majors (I146-147).

M3: ...I'm all into, like, sports, and like, I was totally in the manly sort of thing and like, who cares about females sort of stage. And she was (.) she's about as girly as they come. Ya know, like, would wear the frilly dresses and planning their wedding already and stuff like that....(I158-162).

Both of the sexes reported perceiving more differences than similarities after the initial interactions (D325, 239; E250-259; J165-167, 201-203). F1 states she never would have "picked" M1 as a friend.

F1: ...It's just terrible but he wouldn't have been someone, (.) I, ya know, like, would of (.) picked as my friend, kinda cause he's kinda weird... (D105-107).

Dyad 3 believes their relationship thrives on their differences (K212, 214-228), while Dyad 2 describe different interests and beliefs; yet find similarities that carry on their friendship (F128-131; G165-169; H133-136). Dyad 1 reported a negative first impression of one another, which usually results in a relationship not being formed (C157 & C225; D102-110, 215-217). The question is, do the partners perceive differences instead of similarities because they are socialized to see the other sex as opposite? Or, do they notice the differentiation before the resemblance simply because they are expected to be different?

All of the individuals reported they felt they had a higher level of trust with their cross-sex friend than they do with many same-sex friends (Dyad 1, Dyad, Dyad 3). Some even compared the friendship to a familial sibling relationship (Dyad 1, Dyad 2).

M1: I think that the, the best answer and I'm sure F1 used it to is that we kinda have like a brother and sister relationship (C70-71).

F1: I would say we're best friends but it's a lot like brother and sister (D42).

F3: ...we're just kinda like, "He's like my brother" and "She's like my sister." (J268-269).

The females state that their male partners do not "gossip" as much as some of their same-sex friends (D302; G265-280; J367-368). Some of the males, M1 and M3, find that they can be more open and emotional with their female partner because they do not have to be as masculine (C471-479; I312-320). Several females also reported feeling their cross-sex friends were more truthful than some same-sex friends (D511-514, 518-520; G281) and use the other sex's opinion to gauge behavior or appearance regarding other relationships (D524-525; G256; I364-367; J316-325, 362-364, 368-374). Dyad 2 also reported that they are less likely to be judged by their cross-sex friend than by their same-sex friends.

M2: Cause I know I won't be judged and she knows the same about me. So anytime we just need to get something off our chests or get help about something we can always go to each other (F277-279).

They discuss this feeling together within their joint interview too (H359-361).

Through these similarities, it can be concluded that cross-sex friendship development does fit Rawlins' broad model of friendship development. The differences, however, imply the possibility that another model may exist for cross-sex friendship or that extensions may be needed to Rawlins' model to account for cross-sex friendships.

Limitations of the study

Several limitations to this study exist. First, the interviews were recorded through both an audio and video recording system. For several of the interviews, the audiotape malfunctioned requiring transcription to be done using the videotape. This

was a limitation because it created problems with background noises and with inaudible sections of talk.

Second, this study was done after the friendships were formed and was relying on information the individuals could recollect. This was problematic in determining the initial interaction characteristics. Because the participants were relying on their memory, some of the information may not be correct or actual.

Another limitation to this study is that most of the interviews occurred several days apart allowing the partners to communicate their opinions, ideas, and answers to the other partner. Although none of the participants reported discussing their interviews with one another, there may have been some topics discussed in relation to the questions asked in the individual interviews. This may or may not have influenced the other or joint interview.

The final limitation to this study is the sample size. The three dyads do not allow enough data to warrant a new model for the development of cross-sex friendships. However, the information collected allows other questions to be formed for future studies.

Suggestions for Future Research

From this study, several questions emerge. Since society holds romantic relationships to a higher degree of social status than friendships, why would a male and a female create a relationship destined to cause controversy? What is it about these relationships that create such a strong bond? How do external forces influence the friendship?

In addition, several studies could stem from the transcribed texts. For instance, the issue of the sexual challenge is unique to cross-sex friendships. How do these three relationships deal with that issue? How do they deal with the issues or problems developed when there is a romantic bond with which one or both are involved? How do the males describe the relationship? How do the females describe the relationship? How do cross-sex friends co-construct their relationship together? How do cross-sex friends negotiate issues in which social rituals segregate the sexes (weddings)? An analysis from the angle of the social constructionist view could also be done using the information within the transcripts to re-construct the development of the friendship through social interaction. The opportunity of developing another model specifically for cross-sex friendship development could also be investigated further.

Conclusion

This study focused on the uniqueness of cross-sex friendship. The development of these relationships still needs further research but by applying what is known thus far, researchers are closer to understanding how these friendships form in spite of the social obstacles. With increased opportunities for cross-sex friendships to form (esp. at work), it becomes important to better understand the process of their development.

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Appendix A

Individual Interview Protocol

First, I would like to thank you for participating in this research. I'd like to remind you that all of your answers are confidential and your name will be changed for anonymity within the findings. If you are uncomfortable answering any of the questions, please say so.

Participant # _____ (1m/1f, 2m/2f...)

Demographics

Age:

Sex:

About the relationship

How long have you and your partner been friends?

How would you describe your relationship to an "outside" viewer?

On a scale of 1-5 with 1 being high and 5 being low, which would best describe the your level of involvement in this relationship recently? How would you rate your partner's level of involvement recently?

These next questions are meant to show the development of the friendship. Some of these questions may not have definitive answers or may not apply to your relationship. Please respond to the best of your memory or that it does not apply.

(Rawlins Stages of friendship development)

(Role-limited interaction)

1. When was the first time you remember meeting your partner? Describe the situation. Were you alone or were other people with you?
2. Were you first physically attracted to your partner? Do you think he/she was physically attracted to you?
3. Did you talk with your partner on this first encounter? If so, what kind of things do you remember talking to your partner about in this first encounter?

(Friendly relations)

4. How soon after the first meeting did you see your partner again? What was that situation like?
5. What kind of topics did you and your partner talk about in these early encounters?

6. What was your impression of your partner in these initial encounters?
What do you think your partner's impression of you was initially?
7. Did you think you had much in common with your partner in these initial encounters? If so, what kind of things did you see you had in common?

(Moves toward friendship/ Nascent Friendship)

8. When was the first time you remember sharing something personal with your partner? When was the first time they shared something personal with you?
9. At what point did you feel you two had established some sense of trust? What was it about your partner that made you feel you could trust them?
10. Have you and your partner ever talked about potential sexual or romantic feelings toward one another? If so, when did you first discuss this with each other? How did you discuss it? (i.e.: jokes, direct conversation, hear-say) Has it ever been an issue or problem in your relationship

(Stabilized friendship)

11. How often do you and your partner interact now?
12. What kind of activities do you and your partner do together now?
13. What kinds of things do you and your partner talk about now?
14. Are there topics you would not talk to your partner about? If so, what? Why not?
15. Do you feel like this friendship is different from your same-sex friendships? If so, how? Are there benefits? Are there disadvantages?

(Issues in the Relationship)

16. When you and your partner argue, what do you argue about?
17. Does this relationship change when one or both of you are romantically involved with a "third" party? If so, how? Are there problems?
18. Do you ever feel like you put more into the relationship than your partner? If so, how do you deal with this issue?
19. Do you ever feel you expect more from the relationship than you get? Do you ever feel your partner is expecting too much? If so, how do you deal with this issue?

These next few questions are about the future of the friendship.

(Future of the friendship)

20. Where do you see your cross-sex friendship in 5 years?
21. When one or both of you live in separate cities/states?
22. When one or both of you get married?
23. When one or both of you have children?

Appendix B

Joint Interview Protocol

Thank you for participating in this study. I hope to contribute to the understanding of cross-sex friendship by doing this study with your help.

I first like to start by asking if the two of you have seen or talked to each other since I did the first interview with you individually? Did you discuss anything we talked about in the interviews?

Now, I would like for the two of you to tell me the story of how you became friends together. Whoever wants to start, go ahead and if the other wants to add to any of the story as we go, please jump in. If I have any questions, I'll ask as we go. So... who wants to begin?

Appendix C

3 Individual Interview with Male 1

4 Male 1 (34 minutes and 28 seconds)

6 I: I'd first like to start off by saying thank you for participating, I appreciate
7 it.

9 M1: No problem.

11 I: Um (.) especially being willing to talk and tell me what is going on but,
12 um, I'd like to remind you that all of your answers are confidential and your name
13 will be changed for anonymity in the findings. So, um, it'll either be changed or
14 there'll be dyad one, dyad two, dyad three type of thing, you'd be assigned a
15 number so. I'm not sure how it will end up being yet. It'll probably be something
16 like that but I won't be using your names. Um, so if you're uncomfortable
17 answering any of the questions, just tell me and uh we can move on to something
18 else.

20 M1: Um, Cori, now, are you comparing F1 and I's friendship to others or

22 I: No, um, what I'm looking at is the development. How is this friendship
23 developed? How is.

25 M1: Is F1 going to see this?

27 I: No

29 M1: (laugh)

31 I: F1 will not see anything and you won't see F1's.

33 M1: Okay

35 I: So, I mean

37 M1: That's fair

39 I: It's completely confidential, um, you're not gonna hear what she said and
40 she's not gonna hear what you said, um it's specifically for me to, um, kinda get an
41 idea of the development and differing perspectives.

43 M1: Okay

45 I: So

47 M1: Sounds good
48
49 I: Okay and start out with, you're twenty-two?
50
51 M1: Three
52
53 I: Three?
54
55 M1: Three, yeah, getting' old.
56
57 I: Okay, and how long have you and your partner been friends?
58
59 M1: F1 and I have been friends since eighth grade. So that makes (pause) ten
60 years! Gosh!
61
62 I: Long time
63
64 M1: Yeah it is
65
66 I: And how would you describe your relationship with F1 to an outside
67 viewer? So somebody who doesn't know you guys, how would you describe your
68 friendship?
69
70 M1: I think that the, the best answer and I'm sure F1 used it to is that we kinda
71 have like a brother and sister relationship. (pause)
72
73 I: Alright, and then on a scale of one to five with one being high and five
74 being low, which would best describe your personal level of involvement in this
75 relationship recently?
76
77 M1: Recently?
78
79 I: Recently.
80
81 M1: (pause) one being the highest?
82
83 I: one being highest
84
85 M1: I'd say (pause) I'd have to say three or four. Lately it's been a four. (pause)
86
87 I: And where would you rate
88
89 M1: Her?
90
91 I: Her.
92

93 M1: I'd say the same thing. Three or four definitely. And (pause) I'd say three
94 on Wednesdays when we actually see each other and four the other days (laugh) of
95 the week (laugh) yeah.

96

97 I: Alright. Okay that's fine. Alright the next questions what I have for you are
98 just, um, kinda to go back and try and remember things that, you know, from the
99 beginning of your relationship up till now.

100

101 M1: Okay

102

103 I: Just to get an idea of where it's developed and how things change and
104 things like that

105

106 M1: Okay

107

108 I: So, these next questions are meant to show the development of the
109 friendship.

110

111 M1: Okay

112

113 I: So, to start out with, first, um, when was the first time you remember
114 meeting?

115

116 M1: "F1", I can remember it very vividly, actually, it was in, I believe it was
117 our, (.) biology class (.) biology or chemistry in eighth grade (.) and she moved
118 into the house right by my friend Matt, who I've known since, 4th grade. And they
119 were friends with family and stuff like that and um, they, ya know, since they were
120 neighbors and stuff. And I remember meeting F1, she came in and she was (.) at
121 first it was, like, okay. I know of her (.) and then we got to be better friends toward
122 the end of the school year. But, um, that's how we met. I met her that day, the first
123 day of school.

124

125 I: Then, um, (.) whenever you first uh initially saw her, or you know began
126 talking to her or whatever, were you physically attracted to her? (pause)

127

128 M1: Geez, (laugh), now that I look back, um, a little bit I guess, she was, well
129 she still is very attractive. But, I, never ever anything exchanged. Never. Anything
130 I'd say close would be a hug. That'd be it. So.

131

132 I: Do you think she was attracted to you? Physically attracted to you?

133

134 M1: No! No! (laugh)

135

136 I: (laugh) No?

137

138 M1: At least I don't know (laugh) No. I don't think she was.

- 139 I: Um, you said you met her the very first day of school, I guess? Right? Er,
140 several days of school.
141
- 142 M1: Right, well, first couple days. Yeah.
143
- 144 I: Okay, did you ever talk with her on these first couple days? Or Did you
145 just see her?
146
- 147 M1: I talked, We talked.
148
- 149 I: You talked?
150
- 151 M1: Yeah
152
- 153 I: Kay, and what kind of things do you remember talking about those first
154 couple times?
155
- 156 M1: Honestly, the first thing, she kept on braggin about how big her house was.
157 And I thought that was kinda rude (.) or (.) being a little snooty but (pause) that's
158 how (.) I remember her talking about that, yeah. She, (.) she came in (.) you know
159 (.) as I think back she either came in during the school year or it was the first day
160 of school. New person in the school, (.) ya know, (.) that kind of thing. So I think
161 she wanted to fit in right away. And, you know, (.) I guess you do or say what you
162 have to do to get in there, so. (.) Although I didn't necessarily agree with what she
163 was saying, (.) she did have, she still does have a very big house on the block but
164 other than that, ya know (laugh)
165
- 166 I: Okay, so you saw her pretty much everyday?
167
- 168 M1: Basically, yeah.
169
- 170 I: In school? Or
171
- 172 M1: Or outside of school. At dances.
173
- 174 I: On weekends?
175
- 176 M1: Um, (.) occasionally when I'd go over to my friends Matt's, and her
177 brother was on my dad's baseball team (.) that he coached. So (.) And I helped out
178 my dad coach, manage the baseball team and since F1's brother Danny was on the
179 team, which he goes here now, um, her dad and Danny were always at the games,
180 of course, so I got to meet them more that way. So.
181
- 182 I: Kinda got to know 'em there?
183
- 184 M1: Yeah

185 I: Okay, Um, in what like, these first couple months or whatever that you saw
 186 her or were around her, what kind of things did you guys talk about?

187

188 M1: Normal stuff (.) like (.) I don't know (.) "What bands you like," (.) ya
 189 know, just school stuff, "What'd you get on that test?" you know, (.) stuff like that,
 190 you know what was kinda weird too was that Matt really liked F1, was really, like
 191 really liked her (.) and so.

192

193 I: He was your neighbor

194

195 M1: Her neighbor

196 []

197 I: Er her neighbor

198

199 M1: Yeah and my friend. So they kinda, he kinda really liked her and (.) she
 200 didn't really like him at first (.) but, I don't know if this'll go into any further
 201 questions, but in high school, when we started getting really close, like sophomore
 202 up to senior year, we were really close, (.) um, she (.) it was kinda like a friends
 203 episode cause it was (.) F1, this was more senior year, but (.) F1, uh Jenny "S." and
 204 Lauren, (.) my Lauren (.) um and then it was Matt, (.) the neighbor, me and this kid
 205 named Pete, and Pete and I were on the hockey team and all six of us hung out all
 206 the time.

207

208 I: Oh, Okay.

209

210 M1: So it was kinda like that a little bit and um, (.) but that was more of the fall
 211 of senior year and then toward the end, they weren't really, (.) after that they
 212 started hating each other, so. (laugh) but, uh. (.) that was hard, ya know. Because,
 213 uh, Matt's my good friend, longer than F1 (.) but then, (.) ya know, (pause) Matt
 214 moved up to Minnesota, (.) and I still went up with F1's family a lot, up there and
 215 (.) and so, but uh Matt's in Minnesota now and F1's here and (.) I mean I ended up
 216 coming here, I decided to come here before F1 (.) so it was actually just
 217 coincidence that she (.) and coincidence that she became a speech major cause I
 218 was a speech major first, but (.) yes (.) it is true that we did agree to come to grad
 219 school together, so (laugh) that's all circumstantial (.) really (.) most of that is
 220 except for grad school.

221

222 I: Um, in these first early times, what was your first impression of F1? What
 223 did you think?

224

225 M1: Honestly? (.) I thought she was a (.) rich (.) snooty girl and she was (.) ya
 226 know, that's that's just, (.) ya know, she was new in the school, (.) once you got to
 227 know her, she was just a real nice girl (.) ya know, nice about everything and most
 228 nice attractive girls, ya know, on the kinda snooty side, but F1 lost that in high

229 I: [(cough)]

230 school (.) she was nice to everyone and just a nice friend to have.

231 I: What do you think she, her first impression of you was?

232

233 M1: I have no idea (.) I bet (.) (pause) Maybe (.) nice guy ? (.) I've always been
234 a nice guy to her, so, you know a nice friend. Like that and I know that (laugh) her
235 ideas about me have fluctuated over time, but uh, you know (.) I don't know. I, I,
236 (.) first impressions I have no idea. I'm sure a lot of different than now.

237

238 I: Did you ever think that you had much in common with her in these first
239 few encounters?

240

241 M1: I could relate to her in a way (.) of being new in a school (.) that way (.)
242 and the fact that her brother was on my dad's baseball team. The fact that she was
243 also friends with Matt, (.) yeah.

244

245 I: So you thought you guys had a lot in common?

246

247 M1: Yeah, we both liked U2, the band, so uh it's pretty consistent now. (laugh)

248

249 I: (cough) When was the first time you remember sharing something personal
250 with F1?

251

252 M1: Ah (.) Geez (pause)

253

254 I: (cough) Like, when was, um, (.) around the time (.), how long into your
255 friendship?

256

257 M1: [] I'd say (pause)

258 Gosh, I'd say (.) Really personal things? Something I wouldn't tell anyone else?
259 Probably more Senior year (.) so that's about four years. (pause) so I mean, I've
260 told her things in the past, but I'd say real personal (.) wait I take that back maybe,
261 (.) maybe after a year or two cause there were some things going on in her family
262 and some of mine and we just kinda, (.) nothin' too serious, but serious enough
263 that it was, ya know, (.) not things I would tell everyone (.) especially someone
264 taping this (laugh) I'm just joking, Cori (laugh)

265

266 I: (laugh) I'm not asking. I'm not asking. Just asking when.
267 And when was the first time she shared something personal with you?

268

269 M1: I'd say about the same time. Cause it was like, (.) not like I tell you
270 something you tell me, (.) it was just more, like, "Yeah, I know what you're saying
271 cause this happened." (pause)

272

273 I: [(cough)] At what point did you feel (.) you two had established a sense of trust
274 with each other? (pause)

275

276 M1: I'd say (pause) junior senior year. When we all started hanging out all the
 277 time. Senior year we were in, um (.) psychology together and we actually came
 278 down here to use one of our college days top come down to visit college it was (.)
 279 Mat, (.) my friend Matt (.) and her friend now Amy Farcow, who was friends with
 280 her ever since, well ever since they were born. We all came down here (.) and we
 281 missed a test that day (.) no big deal, we'd just take it the next day (.) and the next
 282 day (.) well, he said, the next day he would come in and give a study guide and
 283 Friday we'd take the test, so we (.) we did that and um (.) we had both noticed that
 284 there was a test copy on the teacher's desk (.) and I said, "did you see that?" She
 285 goes, "yeah I saw I" and she goes "I actually grabbed it. "And I go "No you
 286 didn't" (.) And she's like, "Yeah I did and in her bag, there it was. () "okay
 287 put you're bag away." Right. (.) Well, the (.) the teacher, um Mr. (.) Oh! (.) I
 288 forgot his name (.) he's a great guy he's a really nice guy and um he always went
 289 through F1's stuff to get, like, a magazine out, like a *Cosmo*. Or a girl magazine,
 290 ya know just to make fun if it (.) and so he did that and she's goin, (.) she's like
 291 this (.) actually she was more like, "can I see a magazine" she's like "sure she gets
 292 it up here and flipping through it and all of a sudden he's like "what's that?" She's
 293 like, "Uh nothing" and I was like (pause) cause I didn't take it but I knew it was
 294 there (.) and she's like (.) she just got all red and so did I and he goes, "Alright step
 295 outside" and he goes, "Anybody else involved in this?" and he was lookin' right at
 296 me. I'm just like (pause) so, she (.) she took the blunt of it (.) she actually took all
 297 of it, um and she didn't get, I mean, our high school was pretty strict (.) and so she
 298 only had to write a paper and I think she could get as high as a 'C' on the test, so.
 299 (.) But she ended up getting the same grade as me. (pause)

300

301 I: So for protecting you, you felt you could trust her?

302

303 M1: Oh yeah! Definitely

304

305 I: ()

306

307 M1: I mean (.) I really didn't do anything wrong (.) but I was involved, I was
 308 kinda a culprit.

309

310 I: So what was it about her that, other than that particular situation, that you
 311 thought you could trust? That made you think (.)I: You could trust her?

312

313 M1: Well, um (.) I met my (.) met my girlfriend, you know, (.) Lauren and how
 314 serious we are through her.(.)I, um (.) um, knew she was coming to the same
 315 college. (.) I mean, it's a lot of (.) you know (pause) same (.) same situations and
 316 you know we could relate to each other and ya know, (.) overall, just a real nice
 317 person. Actually though, (.) since we're talking about friendship (.) When F1 and I
 318 were here (.) uh actually senior year when Lauren and I started dating we didn't
 319 tell anybody and we didn't tell F1 and she got real mad about that (.) So no big
 320 deal (.) but (.) then as the years here progressed and Lauren and I hung out a lot,
 321 and I didn't see F1 as much. She got mad about that. So, I mean, if anything (.)

322 Lauren and F1 aren't friends anymore (.) and (.) Lauren, F1 doesn't really like
 323 Lauren and vice versa. And that's been hard as a best friend (.) but I love Lauren,
 324 you know, and love is always kinda more stronger than like. But F1 has been very
 325 helpful with the past. You know, what has happened in the past and Lauren and I
 326 are friends now and I guess you could say we're dating (.) you know. I know she's
 327 not looking for someone else and I know I'm not (.) but um (.) F1 doesn't know
 328 that. F1 doesn't know that we're friends now (.) And she's kinda (.) she's kinda
 329 against that. So, I don't want to tell her because I don't want her to yell at me.
 330 She's only being protective and I understand that but (.) I don't think she's ever
 331 understood how much I (.) feel about Lauren. So, that's why lately it's been a three
 332 or a four. Because she's just (.) you know (pause)

333

334 I: Kay

335

336 M1: Brother, sister (laugh)

337

338 I: Um, have you and F1 ever talked about potential sexual or romantic
 339 feelings toward each other? Not, not Specifically, I'm not sayin' that you have to

340 M1: [(laugh)]

341 sit down and like talk.

342 []

343 M1: Naw, (.) we joke around, (.) maybe we joke around (.) Freshman year
 344 When sometimes when Lauren wouldn't come to visit, we'd sleep in the same bed
 345 head to toe. Not (.) Never ever. I think I might have accidentally touched her
 346 breast sometime (.) hey, I mean I'm talkin' like (.) totally like "whoops" you
 347 know, like, "I'm sorry." She's like "You just grabbed my boob!" It's just, like,
 348 "No I didn't (laugh) and she'd make fun of that, but (.) other than flat-out (snap)
 349 you know, (.) No. Never. (pause) I never felt that way about F1. (.) I just, more of
 350 a friend. And plus, if that'd happen I knew that we'd lose our friendship and
 351 that's never worth it. It's never been worth it. So.

352

353 I: So it's never been an issue or problem?

354

355 M1: Hm mm. Never.

356

357 I: Alright. Um (.) Moving up to more of, like now closer to now, (.) how
 358 often do you and F1 interact now?

359

360 M1: Once or twice a week. (.) And last semester it was more cause we had more
 361 classes together but she goes home on the weekends and she's only here on
 362 Wednesdays (.) and plus I'm in the office all the time, ya know, (.) we just don't
 363 (.) we just don't see each other as much.

364

365 I: Do you talk on the phone?

366

367 M1: Maybe (.) once or twice a week that'd probably be (.) but once, one is
 368 definitely. Wednesdays and maybe during the week she'd call me or I'd call her.
 369 "What's up? What are you doin' this weekend?," ya know.

370

371 I: Um, what kind of activities do you guys do now (.) together?

372

373 M1: We have this thing, (.) Aw Geez, (.) we used to (.) work at the same place
 374 in the summer (.) at a concession stand and um (.) we'd have these things called fat
 375 nights (laugh) and we would just go out and just like, (.) go see a movie and like,
 376 before that just, like, go out and just order, like (.) go to White Castle and order a
 377 20 pack or something (laugh) and just, like, you know, it'd be our fat night. We'd
 378 just eat like the shittiest food and everything like that, cause usually she was
 379 depressed or something, ya know. It'd just be something fun like that, so (.) but
 380 um, the last we actually went out and did something was (.) um, (.) a month, about
 381 a month ago when I was, the whole thing w/Lauren, actually that Valentine's Day,
 382 uh (.) I found out Lauren was seeing someone else and (.) I was just like, (.) that
 383 really broke my heart. Plus, what I found out about a week ago, (.) She never went
 384 out w/ the guy on Valentine's Day cause he ended up ditching her, (.) So I was
 385 worrying about nothing, but you know at the time, you know how it is.. But um (.)
 386 So she helped me out with that and we drove home together in separate cars and
 387 then we met at Dunkin' Donuts in Frankfort where we live and we talked. She's
 388 always been real helpful with the whole thing w/me and Lauren, so (.) stuff like
 389 that (.) but um, that's the last time that we went out, (.) Today (.) I called her for
 390 lunch (.) but we were leaving right away and she wouldn't have time to get ready
 391 and so (.) another thing F1 likes to do (.) and I'm used to now (.) she'll say
 392 something and you'll be like "But - uh" (.) click. (pause) and that's her way of
 393 ending a conversation when she's mad (.) which is fine.

394

395 I: So she just hangs up?

396

397 M1: Yeah. (pause) that's F1 though, so I'm used to that (laugh).

398

399 I: Does that bother you?

400

401 M1: No (laugh) cause I'm used to it (laugh)

402

403 I: Oh, Okay.

404

405 M1: You know. (.) Okay, yeah, I just know how F1 is.

406

407 I: What kind of topics do you guys talk about now? (pause) what kind of
 408 things you said before. You said before

409

410 M1: Graduating. Um (.) What we're gonna do afterwards (pause) How's Paul,
 411 her boyfriend. She doesn't say anything about Lauren. (pause) Um. (.) How's your
 412 family. She's real close to my family too. (.) My brother actually, my older

- 413 brother. Um (.) did you get your web page done yet, ya know. Did you start your
 414 thesis? (laugh)
 415
 416 I: So maybe future plans?
 417 M1: Yeah! Little bit little bit. (pause)
 418
 419 I: Um (.) Are there topics you would not talk to her about?
 420
 421 M1: Lauren
 422
 423 I: You wouldn't talk to her about
 424 []
 425 M1: Not anymore because now I like Lauren again and
 426 we're start, hopefully going to be able to work things out and I know she wouldn't
 427 be receptive to that. She wouldn't (.) like that at all. (pause)
 428
 429 I: So you
 430 []
 431 M1: Sure she's not gonna see this right? (laugh)
 432 []
 433 I: I'm positive. I promise
 434 []
 435 M1: I know cause that's (.) no I (.) I
 436 haven't said anything bad about her (.) yet.
 437
 438 I: No, I promise.
 439
 440 M1: I know.
 441
 442 I: Um (.) Are there any other things (.) topics you wouldn't talk to her about?
 443 (pause)
 444
 445 M1: Mm (.) She's pretty stiff on religion (.) Actually she (.) you know what's
 446 funny (.) but she called me (.) last night and said she wanted to go to church with
 447 me, and I (.) I'm like (.) Whoow (.) and I'm like alright, and I, (.) we're actually
 448 goin' tomorrow at 4:30 (.) She's gonna pick me up. So, that was kind a shocker for
 449 me. But, um (.) religion is really big to her. I know not talk about that cause (.) F1
 450 has a symptom of never being wrong, you know, like some other people we know
 451 in the program here. And that's fine cause I'm used to that too. But I mean (.) I'd
 452 say I'm more passive when it comes to F1 now. "okay, F1. Okay." "Yes F1." Ya
 453 know? (pause) And that whole trip to Memphis (.) wasn't, didn't go as well as I
 454 thought it would go. Only because I was in kinda a bad mood myself (.) and (.)
 455 She, um, she's never wrong and all that stuff, so.
 456
 457 I: Spending an entire week together was
 458

- 459 M1: Yeah! I forgot how hard it is to do that (laugh) (pause)
 460
 461 I: Okay. Um (.) Do you ever feel like (.) Er, do you feel that this relationship
 462 is different from you other friendships you have?
 463 M1: Oh yeah.
 464
 465 I: How?
 466
 467 M1: Because of the amount of trust we have with each other. Because (.) um,
 468 she's very honest with me (pause) (deep breath).
 469
 470 I: Do you feel it's different from your same sex friendships?
 471
 472 M1: Oh Yeah! (.) Oh definitely. I could tell F1 anything, verses telling a guy
 473 I: [How? In what]
 474 something (.) or express myself in a way, either sad or happy in a way, ya know.
 475 Cause of that whole guy image, like ya know. Guys aren't suppose to do that. So.
 476 But uh, (.) I just feel more comfortable telling a woman something than sometimes
 477 a man. I have (.) close guy friends and things like that. I'm not (.) I, I mean, some
 478 people know things about me that are guys that some girls don't know, but (clears
 479 throat) for the most part (.) yeah, that's (.) that's what's different cause I can tell
 480 her almost anything. (pause) And vise versa, she feels pretty close, so.
 481
 482 I: So that's the, those are the benefits of it?
 483
 484 M1: I'd say so, yeah.
 485
 486 I: And what kind of disadvantages do you have, or do you?
 487
 488 M1: (pause) (deep breath) I think she knows too much about me.
 489
 490 I: (Laugh)
 491
 492 M1: She uses it, she uses it to her advantage. And she does (laugh) And vise
 493 versa. "Oh yea, well what about that one time, F1?" ya know, it's that whole
 494 brother and sister thing, ya know. It's really weird in a way, (.) cause that's how
 495 my sister and I are. Ya know? And only recently have, uh, Megan and I gotten
 496 pretty close, a little bit. So (.) F1's like the big sister I never had.
 497
 498 I: The big sister?
 499
 500 M1: Yeah, I have a big brother, I have a big brother but as far as a big sister, no.
 501
 502 I: Alright, um when you guys argue, what kind of things do you argue about?
 503

504 M1: Lauren (laugh) "What are you doin' on the weekend?" "I'm going home."
 505 "You always go home." "Well, I'm goin' home." Ya know? Uh (.) Oh just
 506 recently not giving her enough time to get ready. Not including her with friends. (.)
 507 Like go out to lunch like we usually do. (pause)

508

509 I: Not giving her enough time to get ready?

510

511 M1: Yeah, to go out to lunch. We just decided to go today (.) and I gave her a
 512 call, "We're gonna be up there in five minutes." "Well, that's not enough time for
 513 me to get ready." She goes, "most people when they wanna go out with someone
 514 for lunch give them like an hour notice." I'm like, "F1, I just fond out." She's like
 515 (.) She goes, "well, whatever." I'm like "F1 I hope you're not mad." She goes, "I'll
 516 get over it like I always do." Click. (laugh) So.

517

518 I: Okay. Um (.) I know you've talked a bit about Lauren already and how that

519 M1: [Yeah]

520 kinda goes. But (.) what kind of changes are there in your friendship whenever you
 521 are with someone (.) either Lauren or a romantic, somebody who you're
 522 romantically involved with or whatever. She's involved with somebody? What

523 M1: [involved with]

524 kind of changes do you see in your relationship then?

525

526 M1: Well, (.) that's (.) that's a very good question because I've actually thought
 527 about that in the past. (.) When F1 has someone she's (.) not as open with me or
 528 maybe not as close. (.) And the same with me. I, (.) when I'm with Lauren I'm not
 529 as close to F1 cause I'm spending so much more time with Lauren. You have
 530 someone you can tell your secrets to (.) and it fills that void, but it replaces that.
 531 And that's what I find amazing. (.) And (.) I think that we all do that, ya know, I
 532 mean, I look at my friend Matt right now, who's up in Minnesota, and I've been
 533 friends with him since 4th grade, I mean this guy was my best friend, really!, And
 534 ever since he found someone there's been less e-mails, less phone calls, less
 535 everything. (.) You know, you find that void (.) in your life, ya know, cause the
 536 distance between Matt and I was extreme, (.) and we only saw each other, like,
 537 once in the summers (.) and um (.) But, ya know, so you don't have someone to
 538 talk like that you find a girlfriend, now who he's engaged to now, and (.) there it is
 539 ya know.

540

541 I: So, the problems that you see mostly with just the time constraints then? Or
 542

543 M1: With, with F1?

544

545 I: What, like, problems. Yeah whenever you guys are romantically involved
 546 with someone else.

547

548 M1: Yeah, ya know (.) But F1's pretty good about involving everybody with
 549 anything. And that's not something I've gotten used to with Lauren cause, like,

550 when we were alone, we were alone. Just the two of us. (.) And with F1 it's
 551 always, like, we're all going here and Paul's coming with. So, as far as being, (.)
 552 I'd say, if you're gonna put it to scale, when I'm with Lauren I'm less
 553 communicative. (.) When she's (.) when she's with Paul, she's (.) she'll have her
 554 weekends when it's just "Paul and I," but most times she's like "Let's all go out."
 555 Which she's pretty good at doin' that. So.

556

557 I: Do you ever feel like you put more into the relationship than she does?

558 (pause)

559

560 M1: Sometimes. (.) I think she would, I'm sure she said that she puts more into
 561 it than me. I'm almost positive she'd say that because she always tries calling me
 562 or something like that, but (.) it's like, it's that stupid argument sometimes where,
 563 You never call me." "Well, you never call me." And it's like (.), how dumb is that?
 564 Ya know, that's (.) but that's how it is. And so, Oh well. (laugh)

565

566 I: So you guys don't really talk about that, you just (.) let it go away?

567

568 M1: Sometime, yeah, (.) I mean, (.) it's really weird and I, recently after
 569 Memphis, I didn't think we'd be friends ever again. Cause I was really upset with
 570 her. Um (.) but uh (.) well she just, time away them, and then just start healin' and
 571 coming back (.) You know, got something in common coming up in a couple
 572 weeks with Graduation and (.) We'll probably be sitting real close by each other, R
 573 and S, () so I mean. And her family will probably take pictures with me and we'll
 574 graduate together and then we'll get back home, and we'll both find separate jobs
 575 and I might see her on the weekends cause she's gonna be with Paul and I
 576 hopefully will be with Lauren again (.) there it goes. The whole cycle. Then she'll
 577 get engaged and she'll get excited and then I'll come to the wedding and rehearsals
 578 cause she's, ya know, she's gonna invite me to that and then, I (.) I think I'll
 579 always e F1's friend (.) towards to the day we die, but I (.) I predict the next ten
 580 years, 20 years will be every once in a while hello. Cause she's just, (.) She's F1
 581 that way and that's fine. I mean, you know, (.) I'll miss her, (.) I won't miss
 582 everything about her but I mean there's some things about her I'll miss, like when
 583 I was applying to the schools down in Florida she said this and I was really
 584 surprised, she goes, "Well, I'll really miss you, M1, if you get the job." And I was
 585 like, "Oh! well, you could come and visit me." "Well, yeah but it won't be the
 586 same." I'm just like, (.) and you know I gave the front like well she's she's right
 587 but in the back of my head I'm like, wow, I didn't think she'd ever say that. So
 588 that was kinda nice. (.) That was before Memphis (laugh)

589

590 I: (laugh) Do you ever feel that you expect more from the relationship than
 591 what you get?

592

593 M1: (pause) Um, (.) not lately, No.

594

595 I: Do you ever feel that she's expecting too much?

596

597 M1: F1? Yeah! (laugh) Yeah! F1 expects a lot. Which is her personality, I
598 mean, (.) if there's something to do when there's and nothing to do F1 could do it.
599 I could always trust her with that. (.) It's too bad you're not asking me about
600 relationships cause I would love to answer that question for that one (laugh)

601

602 I: You can answer it

603

604 M1: No, it's as far as Lauren and I are concerned. That's okay. That's a
605 different interview.

606

607 I: No that's fine go ahead.

608

609 M1: Well it has nothing to do with friends.

610

611 I: (laugh) Okay. Alright. Um, I know you kinda touched on this already, but
612 where do you see your friendship in five years? Or ten years let's just say.

613

614 M1: (pause) Hey how ya doin'? You know what, and now, I can just predict it
615 right now, I know F1. She'll get a job, she's gonna be all psyched about. And she's
616 gonna get married, blah blah blah and then high school reunion's gonna come
617 around (.) we'll see each other and start off again like that. ()

618

619 I: Pick up where you left off?

620

621 M1: Yeah, probably. "Member that one time?" "Member that one time?"
622 "Member when you did this?" "Member when you did that?" (pause) I like (.) I
623 like her mom. Her mom and I are really good friends. We drove up to Minnesota
624 once and it was her and I (.) it was her (.) me (.) and like two other neighbors in the
625 back (.) And we just drove straight. Tried to find a hotel (.) just drove straight
626 through (.) so we really bonded that night and we talked about a lot of things, it
627 was really cool. But her mom's a very, very nice lady. And I, (.) I really like her
628 mom, Chris.

629

630 I: What about where you see the friendship when you guys like in separate
631 cities? Or State? Like you were just talking about Florida? Do you see it (.) going
632 to visit or do you see

633

634 M1: () probably if I'm in, well my parents live there (.) in Frankfurt so (.)
635 if I'm ever in Frankfurt, yeah. But um (.) as far as takin' maybe a week off and
636 seeing each other, No! (laugh) I highly doubt that. But occasional e-mails maybe.
637 Ya know.

638

639 I: What about once you get married? When one or whenever just one of you
640 gets married? Or whenever both of you get married? How do you see that?

641

642 M1: If I marry Lauren, Probably never (laugh) which I really wanna do, marry
 643 Lauren, but uh (.) I don't know (.) she'll either have to deal with it get over it or
 644 hold a grudge and (.) carry that battle ax, I don't know. We'll see. I'm not really
 645 worried about it. I mean () I think we both had our (.) feed of each others, I'm
 646 sorry. Sometimes it overflows and sometimes it shallows out a little bit but
 647 eventually it rises up. So.

648

649 I: What about when you guys have kids?

650

651 M1: It all depends on, again, where we live and (.) ya know (.) just certain
 652 things, I'm sure (.) I'm sure that we'll see each other down the road and we'll
 653 share memories and we'll talk and stuff like that but, I mean (.) I, ya know right
 654 now it just not that, and I know it's sad but I'm sure that maybe over time ya
 655 know, ya never know what tomorrow brings. So.

656

657 I: So, like, the future is as of this point where you're standing at now, you
 658 don't see you guys as close?

659

660 M1: No, I (.) but maybe

661 []

662 I: As you are now or once were?

663

664 M1: Once were because maybe when we move back to Frankfurt, we both find
 665 jobs and you know (.) we'll be able to relate to each other, ya know. "Hey, how ya
 666 doin'?" and (.) at first and then I think over time (pause) cause out of all six (.) of
 667 us who used to hang out senior year (.) the only people who actually keep in touch
 668 with each other, (.) I keep in touch with Pete and Matt (.) F1 (.) Lauren keeps in
 669 touch with me and vise versa. I keep in touch with her, but then (.) I think I keep in
 670 touch with all of us more, (.) Jenny Stacey fell off the planet. I don't know, we
 671 don't know what happened to her (.) but I talk to Pete, Matt, F1 and Lauren. Cause
 672 that was, (.) that was the best friendships, er group of friends I ever had and
 673 probably ever will have, I mean in the office it's cool, but (sighs) that could be a
 674 whole other report or man, I'll tell you what, people really change and I'm really
 675 surprised some of the things that, um, (.) have changed among us in there. So.

676

677 I: Within just the year or

678

679 M1: Within, yeah, like after Christmas break, I don't know what somebody got
 680 for Christmas but, they're really different now. So.

681

682 I: Wait, (.) before you go on.

Appendix D

1
2
3 Individual Interview with Female 1

4 Female 1 (35 minutes, 40 seconds)

5
6 F1: Date?

7
8 I: Today is the 3rd. Thanks. I'd like to first start out by saying thank you for
9 participating, umm, and remind you that all your answers are confidential. Um,
10 the, your name will be changed within the paper or something, I won't be using
11 any names. Uh, either I'll say dyad one, dyad two, dyad three, whatever it would
12 be. I won't use your name. Um.

13
14 F1: If you want to I give you permission to (.) if you want to.

15
16 I: I don't think I will, I think I'll probably end up, if I do need to I'll end up
17 changing the names.

18
19 F1: Okay.

20
21 I: Um. So that anonymity remains the same for all. So these first questions
22 are basically just to, kinda understand your particular friendship.

23
24 F1: Okay.

25
26 I: That'd be your particular relationship. Um, first, your age is?

27
28 F1: 23 (pause)

29
30 I: Okay, how long have you and your partner been friends?

31
32 F1: Um, let's see, (.) sorry, I have to count.

33
34 I: That's okay.

35
36 F1: Ten years (pause)

37
38 I: Okay, and how would you describe your relationship to somebody like, an
39 outside person, like an outside viewer? (.) How would you describe your
40 relationship?

41
42 F1: I would say we're best friends but it's a lot like brother and sister. It's
43 kinda evolved into that.

44
45 I: Okay. (pause) On a scale of one to five, with one being high and five being
46 low, how would you describe the level of involvement in the relationship recently?

- 47 F1: One. (laugh)
 48
 49 I: One, so very high?
 50
 51 F1: Uh huh.
 52
 53 I: And how would you rate your partner's?
 54
 55 F1: As in my life?
 56 []
 57 I: Uh huh.
 58
 59 F1: Uh (.) four.
 60
 61 I: Okay. Uh. The next questions I have for you, um they're a series of
 62 questions trying to figure out, I want to go back and see how you guys developed
 63 your friendship.
 64
 65 F1: Okay.
 66
 67 I: So a lot of these questions are going to pertain to that. Some of them may
 68 not have anything to do, maybe you have never had that issue in your relationship.
 69 Just tell me that you haven't. Um, if you can't remember something, just
 70 remember it to the best of your ability or as much as you can.
 71
 72 F1: Okay.
 73
 74 I: Um, so first, could you tell me when was the first time you remember
 75 meeting your partner?
 76
 77 F1: That's funny, you say your partner. Um (.) gosh, he let's see, eighth grade,
 78 I: [M1]
 79 uh he was friends with, uh, our neighbors and they had a younger son and he hung
 80 out with him all the time. The kid was real weird.
 81
 82 I: (laugh)
 83
 84 F1: So, uh, they kinda, the guy that M1 was friends with, yeah, M1 kinda felt a
 85 I: [Who was?] [the neighbor?] [okay]
 86 loyalty to him and we kinda did the same things and M1 sometimes would tag
 87 along with their family. Go out to dinner. So that's kinda how I met him, like,
 88 we'd all end up going out to dinner or the two families cause our parents were
 89 close.
 90
 91 I: Oh, okay.
 92

- 93 F1: So.
 94
 95 I: So can you describe the first, the situation that you guys, you first vividly
 96 remember him in?
 97
 98 F1: First situation?
 99
 100 I: Yeah.
 101
 102 F1: Probably (.) the Frankfurt eighth grade dance. He was so nerdy (laugh) and
 103 I: [(laugh)]
 104 funny and you just had to, like, love him cause you just had to laugh at him cause
 105 he was just so goofy you couldn't not. (pause) It's just terrible but he wouldn't
 106 have been someone, (.) I, ya know, like, would of (.) picked as my friend, kinda
 107 cause he's kinda weird (laugh) but he was so funny and he didn't care, he didn't
 108 I: [yeah]
 109 care about anything. And um, I can just remember him standing around, I'm like,
 110 "That guy's kinda weird, who's that?" But then, when I met him I just, ya can't not
 111 like the kid, cause I just laugh.
 112
 113 I: Yeah. Were you, were you ever initially in, like, the first encounter, at all,
 114 were you ever attracted to
 115
 116 F1: No.
 117
 118 I: No.
 119
 120 F1: Hm mm.
 121
 122 I: Do you think he was attracted to you?
 123
 124 F1: (pause) (laugh) He's made comments before, like he says he thinks I'm
 125 attractive, but it's not, like, (pause) he's (pause)
 126
 127 I: You don't take him serious?
 128
 129 F1: No. No.
 130
 131 I: Alright. Um, okay, the first time that you guys met, you say that your
 132 neighbors, that your neighbor and him kinda hung out so the first time you two
 133 F1: [Uh huh]
 134 talked or whatever, did, did you guys talk that first time that you met? Or did you
 135 just see him and happen to start talking over time?
 136
 137 F1: It's kinda, I saw him, I kinda knew who he was, and it's, it's strange
 138 I: [Yeah.]

139 though because it just kinda evolved that way and then that's just kinda how it
140 went.

141

142 I: Do you remember what you guys used to talk about in like, these first few
143 times, like, even whenever you were with the three of, or a group of people?

144

145 F1: Um.

146

147 I: What kind of things did you guys talk about?

148

149 F1: [] Well, I was the new kid, so, new to that area
150 and everything, so, we'd talk a lot about that kind of stuff and how I liked it there,
151 but mainly I was kinda an outsider in that friendship. So, I would just listen and
152 they would talk about golf, and all the guy stuff they do, um, I was just trying to be
153 cool and sit there and, (.) and that was about it.

154

155 I: So, how soon after the first time that you guys met did you see M1 again?
156 Like, the first time you guys met, how soon after? Was it like the next day, or?

157

158 F1: [] Probably, the dances
159 were on Friday nights, probably Monday. (.)

160

161 I: Okay

162

163 F1: Ya know like we went to school everyday together, so.

164

165 I: [] Yeah Um, (.) what kind
166 of topics like, past the point of just getting to know each other did you guys talk
167 about once you started talking? Um, the two of you around each other with other
168 people, what kind of topics did you guys talk about then?

169

170 F1: [] Probably cause I was guy crazy back in the day, about all
171 the guys I was infatuated with and wanted, and wanted to go to dances with and I
172 (.)

173

174 I: (laugh)

175

176 F1: I had a little crush on (pause) I don't know what, what I was smoking, but I
177 had a little crush on his friend, that, how I met him through.

178

179 I: Uh huh.

180

181 F1: So we'd talk about that and who M1 likes, he always had these crushes on
182 these girls and I would help him through that. And, like we'd kinda just talk about
183 that kinda stuff, (.) or, (.) um, (.) that's about all I can think of (pause)

184

- 185 I: Okay, um, you've already said a little bit about it, but what was your
 186 F1: [(laugh)]
 187 impression of M1 at first?
 188
 189 F1: He's not gonna know any of this, is he?
 190
 191 I: No.
 192
 193 F1: Good, okay (.) um, (.) he had these yellow glasses and he was terrible, I felt
 194 so bad for the kid. He, he had, (.) you just had to laugh at him. He had, um, you
 195 know those big grandpa glasses, that like covers half your face (.) and they were
 196 tinted yellow cause
 197 I: [(laugh)] [yeah]
 198 they were like, so old and I think they were those outside glasses, you know, when
 199 you (.)
 200
 201 I: You walk in or outside and they tint.
 202 []
 203 F1: Outside, yeah, but they were always yellow and, um, people kinda
 204 used to make fun of him a little bit. So, you couldn't, (.) he was just so goofy. And
 205 he looked goofy and he had this spikey hair that stuck up on its end, and the funny
 206 thing was, was you know, like, you have those nerdy people you know and they're
 207 always nerds, he was never that way because, even though he looked goofy and
 208 had yellow glasses, um, people just, like, loved him cause he was just so hysterical
 209 and so funny. And, he could have cared less what he looked like, so he kinda gave
 210 off that impression too, so.
 211
 212 I: Yeah. (.) So what do you think he thought of you initially then? (.) Or, do
 213 you even know what he thought of you (pause) at first?
 214
 215 F1: I (pause) I don't (.) he thought I was a bitch. I know that. I know he
 216 thought I was a bitch, because I was a bitch. And I was in a new school and I
 217 didn't know a lot of people and so, I had a cocky-ass attitude. And I (.) I know I
 218 said a few things to him that when I look back I'm like "Oh my god. I was such a
 219 I: [(laugh)]
 220 bitch. Jesus." And I can't believe that I said half the things that I said that even he,
 221 he reminds me, he's like, "Well, remember when you said that?" Uh (.) but (.) so, I
 222 think he thought I was a bitch. And it took a while and I kinda didn't, cause he was
 223 kinda nerdy, and I really wanted to, you know when you're new and you wanna be
 224 in the popular crowd thing. So, um, it took a while for that but initially (.) he, he
 225 always tells me he thought I, he thought "Oh you're so hot." But (.) he's probably
 226 just making me, you know, he just says that cause he know that I just have to
 227 smack him when he does that. But um, I think he though I was a bitch.
 228 I: [(laugh)]
 229 If that helps ya. (laugh)
 230

- 231 I: I understand. I've had that, um, impression told to me before about me.
 232 Um, did you ever think that you guys had anything in common in these first couple
 233 of interactions?
 234
 235 F1: No!
 236
 237 I: No.
 238
 239 F1: Oh, no, no. Nothing.
 240 []
 241 I: Didn't think you had anything in common? No.
 242
 243 F1: Just the fact that (.) um, we both have, like, kinda easy going personalities.
 244
 245 I: Uh huh.
 246
 247 F1: And I have a really weird sense of humor so did he (.) and we just were
 248 sarcastic but besides that, in a really, (.) no. Nothing, hm mm.
 249
 250 I: Nothing in common. Yeah. Kinda funny. (.) So, when was the first time
 251 you remember sharing something personal with him? (pause) I mean something
 252 that you felt was important.
 253
 254 F1: Without going into detail about what that was? Like, without going
 255 [] []
 256 I: Huh? Well, it
 257 doesn't matter. It's up to you just when was the first time, (.) you can talk about
 258 the detail, you can talk about whatever, but, the first time you remember talking
 259 F1: [Um] [Well]
 260 about (.) how long into the friendship?
 261
 262 F1: It was probably a year or so (.) I mean we kinda more, we were kinda
 263 friends, we'd say hi, we'd, um that kind of thing. (.) Our neighbors would get
 264 together type of a thing. Uh (.) but as we got older, like with guys, maybe I would
 265 date people, he, he was a great listener (.) and he would talk to me um, but once
 266 the first summer, I think I was a sophomore in high school (.) our neighbors that
 267 we had originally been friends with, whatever, they had a cabin in Minnesota and
 268 so (.) they'd leave at the beginning of the summer and my family was going up and
 269 M1 wanted to go, so it was like "Why don't you come with us?" And that's how,
 270 that's how he's like, one of my mom's sons kinda brought into that, but um, so he
 271 came with us and just talking. (.) Um, about stuff and just hang out, I mean, that's
 272 like a week of just constant hanging out. Learning about him and him learning
 273 other things about me. I think that's when we really started kinda sharing, ya know.
 274 At that point it's like, "Oh, I like this guy, I have this crush on this guy." And it's
 275 like so important, (.) so that would be
 276

- 277 I: Yeah. Um, so when was the first time he, was that about the same time that
 278 he started sharing personal stuff with you?
 279 [] []
 280 F1: Yes. Yes.
 281
 282 I: Probably about the same time you guys were all together.
 283
 284 F1: Definitely.
 285
 286 I: Alright. (.) Um, at what point in the friendship, that you can remember, (.)
 287 did you think or feel like you two had finally established a trust with each other?
 288 So, that you could trust him with secrets or you could trust him with anything.
 289 []
 290 F1: I would probably say it was
 291 probably, like, sophomore year in high school. So, it was like a year or so into the
 292 friendship. (.) Um, I'm not a very trusting person so it took a while (.) but it wasn't
 293 till high school. (.) I think it was sophomore year when we, when like the phone
 294 calls would start and he would come over, my parents would, they would talk, so,
 295 that kind of thing. (pause)
 296
 297 I: Yeah, so, what was it about him that you thought you could trust him? That
 298 made you, cause you said you're not a very trusting person, so, what was it about
 299 him that you thought you could start trusting him?
 300
 301 F1: He just (.) I think it was slowly, like, I would tell him something about a
 302 guy, in high school people usually go and mouth off to someone else (.) um, I also
 303 had a really, I have, one of my friends in my group was really messed up and was
 304 into a lot of heavy stuff and I had problems with her and he would listen to me and
 305 he would, he never said anything to anybody and slowly, I think I realized (.)
 306 "Wow, he's pretty good at this."
 307
 308 I: Cause he didn't tell anyone?
 309
 310 F1: Yeah.
 311
 312 I: () (laugh) ()
 313
 314 F1: Yeah (laugh)
 315
 316 I: Um (.) Okay, have you (.) and M1 ever (.) talked about potential sexual or
 317 F1: [You're scaring me (laugh)]
 318 romantic feelings toward one another?
 319
 320 F1: No!
 321
 322 I: No. You guys have never talked about it?

- 323 F1: Like, talked, like it's a possibility?
 324
 325 I: Well, I mean, talked about it or said, "No. It's never gonna happen" or
 326 anything, um, to the extent of, like, that is a common (.) you know, I mean, a lot of
 327 F1: [I]
 328 people assume if they see a male and female together, they're usually, it becomes
 329 one of those things that somebody starts talking about
 330 []
 331 F1: Um, that's, yeah () um, we usually joke about it and
 332 (.) I am so glad he's not going to see this, but sometimes, (.) not now but I think
 333 more in the middle of our relationship, he would say things and he'd be serious.
 334
 335 I: Uh huh.
 336
 337 F1: And I think he'd wait to see my reaction and then I'd start joking and be
 338 like "What the hell is wrong with you?" Or um, freshman year of college we used
 339 to go out or we'd drink or something at his place and I would stay over and I
 340 would just stay in his bed. (.) I mean, (.) that is nothing to me. (.) I just roll over
 341 and go to bed. And (laugh) he'd like, roll over and put his arm around me (.) and
 342 I'd lay there for a second and be like, "What the hell is he doing?" And he's
 343 serious, and he didn't move and then I'd be like, "Get the hell," (.) can I swear?
 344
 345 I: (laugh) yeah, I don't care.
 346 []
 347 F1: "Get the fuck off me," and then you know, he'd laugh and
 348 that kind of thing but, um, (pause) I think (pause) just to see (.) ya know, like, what
 349 I: [Just to see how'd you react]
 350 my real reaction would be which is always, like, "What the hell are you doing?"
 351 I: [(laugh)]
 352 (laugh) But a lot of that started because, (.) um (.) I mean, we went to the same
 353 high school, same grade school, and went to college together. Same parties. Um,
 354 he dated one of my friends, so, (.) we were (.) together a lot and I think people, (.)
 355 as a joke would lay (.) you've heard, ya know, people say here, like, (.) "Why
 356 don't you guys just date?" Or crap like that, and I'd be like, "Aghh, gosh, shut up.
 357 Can't people have guy friends, what the hell?" But, um (.) and then, we'd joke
 358 about it, but it was never like, we never, like, were seriously were, like, (.) cause I
 359 just never (.) I've never seen him like that.
 360
 361 I: Yeah.
 362
 363 F1: So.
 364
 365 I: So, has it ever been an issue do you think? (pause) the romantic issue. The
 366 whole idea of "Could this ever turn into something else?" Has it ever been an issue
 367 do you think?
 368

369 F1: Hm mm.

370

371 I: No.

372

373 F1: Hm mm.

374

375 I: Um, okay. Now, like, moving up further now, closer to now time, um, how
376 often do you and your partner interact now? And I know with the grad school and
377 stuff you guys are probably seeing each other a lot but

378 []

379 F1: Everyday. And even when we're home. If he
380 doesn't have (.) a, like, hockey practice, or um, a job interview, or cause he spends
381 time with his family and that kind of thing, uh, he'll come out with me and my
382 friend. I say me and my friend, but uh, the guy I'm dating and his group. Uh, I've
383 been with him. We've gone to high school and grade school all together too, so
384 M1's kinda got introduced to that group through me and so we'll all go out or I'll
385 have them or sometimes we just, like, if he's goin' through a hard time we'll go
386 out for coffee or stuff. So it's usually (.)

387

388 I: Then, you guys are around each other a lot?

389 []

390 F1: It's very rare we go a week and not see
391 or call or something.

392

393 I: Yeah (.) okay. (.) So what kind of activities do you guys do now (.)
394 together? (.) What is it that you guys do?

395

396 F1: Besides studying (.) sometimes we watch movies or he'll come over, uh, on
397 a Saturday night and, (.) ya know, we had a, if we went out on Friday and he'll
398 hang out, um, sometimes we eat dinner together, uh, when we're at home. It's
399 usually because, there's one place we always go and that's Duncan Donuts and we

400 I: [(laugh)]

401 get, (.) I get a bagel and cream cheese and he gets a donut and orange juice or
402 something and coffee and that's what, we've been doing that since (.) we used to
403 even work together (.) uh (.)

404

405 I: Where'd you guys work?

406

407 F1: The Red Hot Revue, I was the manager of a concession stand, and he
408 worked under me. Which, has so many funny stories that I can't even, won't go
409 into them, but, um, he, uh, worked with me and like, my brother, so, this is how,
410 like, we're all just so connected. And, um, (.) every time after we'd work, we'd go
411 to Duncan Donuts and get a bagel and coffee, so that's, like, our thing.

412

413 I: Little hang out.

414

415 F1: Yeah, it's gay but, ya know (laugh)

416

417 I: (laugh) That's alright. We have places like that too. We do the same thing,
418 um. (.) So, what kind of things do you guys talk about now? Um, like, you said
419 back in high school and before you talked about, guys you liked and talked about

420 F1: [Um]

421 girls he liked so, what kind of things do you talk about now?

422

423 F1: Our relationship has really changed now (.) um, (.) it's kinda hard to say
424 because it's really gone through, from a big jump. He started, (), started
425 dating someone that I just couldn't, was a friend of mine and (.) they started dating
426 and they were just terrible. They were terrible together, you know all this. Um (.)
427 they were not right for each other. She (.) basically cut off our friendship and he
428 was only focused on her (.) and I stayed because they'd have fights and get in all
429 this horrible crap. (.) And, um, (.) I can't believe we lasted that because it was, it
430 was really bad and their relationship is still bad. But, now, like, the past couple
431 years or year or so (.) um, his life really has been around her which is unhealthy.
432 And, I can't stand to watch that. And then, last (pause) last semester I broke up
433 with my boyfriend for a while and he was not there for me and I've been there (.)
434 with him (.) through everything with her everyday. Made him dinner, sat and
435 watched him cry, everything a best friend would do. And, when it was my turn he
436 either didn't know how to, I don't blame him, cause he's a guy, and it's a little
437 different, but uh (.) all he said was, "Oh, you guys will get back together." And,
438 we did but (.) regardless, how do you know that? So that kinda really, (pause)
439 starting from last semester, put a little bit of a tension on our relationship, like, I'll
440 snap at him and people really think I'm joking but I'm really being an ass because
441 he pissed me off. And, um, (.) he'd go through the whole girlfriend thing again,
442 which is totally taking over his life. And so, now it's really (.) our relationship's
443 me listening to him be upset and listening to him talk and listening to him
444 regardless of what's going on in my life (.) um, helping him when he's upset and
445 crying and hurting and (pause) calling him and making sure he's okay and that's
446 kinda like, seriously, that's about all we deal with right now. (pause)

447

448 I: Well, that's good that you are there. (.) So, do you feel like, (.) do you feel
449 like this friendship is different than your same-sex friendships?

450

451 F1: Oh yeah!

452

453 I: How?

454

455 F1: Um, (pause) well actually (.) it's a little bit different because (.) he's um,
456 just what he's going through right now and what I'm dealing with, him (.) um, (.)
457 but actually, now that I think about it, (pause) it is a little bit just because he's
458 more of like a brother to me, so, I can, I'm talkin' to him, like he's sitting in the
459 I: [(laugh)]

460 chair. I can, uh, I snap at him and I yell at him and I, oh, he knows I do this, I hang
 461 up, I get so mad that I hang up and usually there's not that many people I hang up.
 462 I hang up on him all the time. (laugh) When I get so mad I just, damn it, and I just
 463 hang up. Then he calls back two minutes later, he's like, "I hate it when you do

464 I: [(laugh)]

465 that." Um, so, I don't do that a lot to my girlfriends and (.) I don't really get into
 466 fights like that with my girlfriends. (.) Um, it's very easy, cause I know (.) I mean,
 467 I know my girlfriends are always gonna be there but it's just so much easier to
 468 fight with him. (.) Um, probably because he really ticks me off, um, but (.) I do
 469 talk to him about anything, I do weird things in front of him. I swear like a truck
 470 driver and I, um, he's seen me at my worst and best, I don't hide anything and
 471 that's how I am with, like, Lauren, my roommate. Uh, (.) we really have kinda the
 472 same (.) other than M1 has been there longer (.) maybe that's why I feel like I can
 473 say all those things to him, I really don't know. But (.) cause he's been there, yeah,

474 I: [Cause he's been there?]

475 since eighth grade and he's seen me go nuts on him and so he's just kinda. (.)

476 That's why I say my brother, cause I do the same thing to my brother.

477

478 I: Oh okay.

479

480 F1: So, I mean, if I get mad at him, I tell him, "You're an idiot." That's what I
 481 do to M1.

482

483 I: Um, (.) are there any topics that you would not talk to him about? Like,
 484 anything that you would not feel comfortable talking to him about?

485

486 F1: Um, (pause) actually (pause) sometimes, well for him (.) sometimes I joke
 487 around about sex, about making out with people (.) and I don't care. And he gets a
 488 little nervous so it makes me nervous just because he's like, "F1, I don't want to

489 I: [(laugh)]

490 hear that." So, you can picture him doing that. But um, (.) so I'd kinda like, (laugh)

491 I don't talk about it, but really, (.) there's not a topic that I wouldn't talk to him

492 about. If I, the first thing that came in my head was like, PMS or if I had my period

493 or something but there were times I'd joke about that and his first reaction is

494 I: [(laugh)]

495 "HHHH, it's so gross!" But there's really nothing.

496

497 I: No? You guys talk about everything?

498

499 F1: Yeah.

500

501 I: So are there, do you see benefits to this friendship that you don't see in

502 other, like, benefits or disadvantages that you have for, like, that you don't have in

503 your same-sex (.) friendships?

504

505 F1: Uh, that's kinda, hmm, (pause) I know that he'll be there long term and
 506 some of, some girlfriends I have, (.) you don't know when you leave for college,
 507 or whatever, like, um, but (.) like Lauren, I'll just use Lauren, I mean, she's the
 508 same way. I'll have her as a friend forever, um, it is always good I think. (.) I
 509 really can't think of any disadvantages other than that he's so taxing and he
 510 stresses me out so much sometimes. Like, when he gets in those moods with those,
 511 with the girl situations, um, and puts me down, but besides that, um, I think it's
 512 great to have a guy friend because, (.) Lauren tells me the truth with things just
 513 because she's like my sister too. But, like, some other girlfriends that aren't as
 514 close they're not gonna sit there and say, "You look like shit."

515

516 I: Yeah.

517

518 F1: You know, or "That doesn't really go together." Or, "That guy, that guy's
 519 an ass." Usually they're like, "Oh." And he just (.) "You look like hell." Or you
 520 know, or he'll just (.)

521

522 I: He'll just say it.

523

524 F1: So, that's, and a guy telling you that is a little bit different than a girl just
 525 because you look for the guy's approval. (pause)

526

527 I: so, when you guys argue, (.) what do you guys argue about, like, what kind
 528 of things are they?

529

530 F1: Uh, () well, right now it's the girl situation because he needs to
 531 stop being a girl and get his head out of his butt.

532

533 I: Needs to stop what? Being a girl? (laugh) Okay.

534

[]

535 F1: Being a girl. Yeah. And get his head out of his butt.
 536 You know, be a little more masculine, take charge of his life. (.) Um, right now
 537 that's (.) a lot, I mean, we're still having problems right now with our fighting. (.)
 538 Um, (.) cause I'm strong willed and he's pretty stubborn himself. Um, other things
 539 are just that he sometimes is not a good friend. And, you're gonna know a lot
 540 about him too. He's a, (.) he's just not and I, I'm a very over-excessive person, I
 541 think with friends and family, like, I was (.) I care a lot about them. I'll do things,
 542 kinda go over and beyond and I, (.) it's hard for me to ask for that back. But he
 543 doesn't, like, he is so bad sometimes, um, things that he says to me sometimes are
 544 really rude and hurtful, um, (.) and he'll say it in front of other people (.) and (.) he
 545 doesn't think, like, that would affect me or like, sometimes he'll say stuff about. (.)
 546 I'm just gonna give an example cause I'm secure about this now, like, about Steve.
 547 He'll make a joke in front of people (.) and that's just so not funny because that's
 548 something that's been (.) something since I was in eighth grade, so, I would never
 549 say that about someone else.

550

551 I: ()

552

553 F1: Yeah, it's things like that and I'll get so mad, but usually it's, it's that kind
554 of goofy stuff we get in fights about.

555

556 I: Okay.

557

558 F1: Or, his family, cause they drive me nuts.

559

560 I: His family? Okay.

561

562 F1: Yeah.

563

564 I: (laugh) Um, I know you've already said that you are in a relationship right
565 now, um, so have you seen the, your friendship with M1 change whenever you
566 guys are in a relationship, uh, with whenever you're in a romantic relationship?

567

568 F1: Um (.)

569

570 I: Like, is there anything that changes?

571

572 F1: When he is with someone (pause) yes. (.) Definitely, because the person
573 that he was with, the only person he was with, it changed. When he was without
574 her, he was fine and our relationship was fine and we talked about everything and
575 we'd go drinkin' and swearin' and whatever. When he was with her around me or,
576 um, (.) I'll do that first. When he was with her around me, he would not be the
577 same person and that would drive me nuts. Um, he would not talk as much to me
578 and how he talked to me was so different, like, polar opposites than how he would
579 talk to me if she was in the room and that was very hurtful cause it was like, (.)
580 "I'm not your girlfriend. She should have nothing ()." And a lot of that was her
581 because what she would do is she would go home and she, I don't think she was
582 secure because he, he'd watch a movie one night at my house and my parents were
583 all home and we were in my basement. Um, my mom and dad think he's like a
584 son. They could leave us together naked, let's just say, and not worry about
585 anything. No, I mean, that's just how, like, I'm just saying, I couldn't think of
586 anything else to say. But, he's been on family vacations, he's gone out to dinner,
587 he's come over when I'm not home and spent time with my family, um, (.) and she
588 should know that. And I always felt his girlfriend should have been happy that he
589 had someone like me to listen to him. (.) And, they would get into huge fights
590 because he was with me alone and um (.) so, talk about taxing on a relationship too
591 cause that, just () me nuts and I would never want her to come over if
592 she thinks. (.) Oh that's disgusting. Anyways, as for my relationship, Paul, um,
593 that's his name, um (.) knows, trusts me fully. (.) Trusts, is almost happier when I
594 am with him, when I'm with M1 alone or something cause he knows I'm safe, that
595 kind of thing. Like, I was going to Memphis with M1, he was happy about that
596 cause he knows that he'll watch over me or whatever.

597 I: Take care of you?

598

599 F1: Right, um, (.) () know we'll be in the same place, in the same bar,
600 I'll talk to M1, it's not even, like, people are always like, "Oh, does he, does it
601 bother," No! It's not, it's never been anything at all. Like, he it's nothing. I could
602 say I spent all night with M1. I could probably tell Paul that we slept in the same
603 bed (.) and he wouldn't care cause he'd know that I probably just didn't want to
604 sleep on the ground. (.) Cause he trusts M1, so, it's very different. (pause)

605

606 I: Kay, um, (.) I know you've already touched on this a little bit too but do
607 you ever feel you put more into the relationship?

608

609 F1: Yeah, (.) and that's like, really mean and I don't mean like he does nothing,
610 like, he just, right now. The past year or so, I think he just really needs that. And
611 I'm not gonna, he needs a friend, he doesn't have a lot of close friends and I'm not
612 gonna say, "No, cause you're going through a hard time." People go through hard
613 times for years and it's the people that stay with them. So, I think this is just
614 something he's goin' through, but (pause) I do do a lot for him and listen and be a
615 good friend and that's what he needs so, it's not like, I don't mean it to sound like
616 he does jack-shit, but sit on his ass.

617

618 I: Yeah, well, how do you, whenever things like that come up, how do you
619 deal with it whenever you start feeling like you're putting more into it than,

620

621 F1: I don't think we handle that that well. Cause, usually I end up yelling and
622 walking away, um or hanging up the phone. That's just kinda how we deal with
623 things and then, we really never have a sit down and talk about it cause I'm always
624 waiting for him to do it, like, I'm always waiting for him to sit me down and say,
625 "I really appreciate everything you've done." And he does that every once in a
626 while. (.) He does do that. You're one of my, or he'll always say, "You're only,
627 one of my only best friends left." And um that means a lot but we really don't, we
628 kinda just, we bitch and we crab and I make fun of him and yell at him sometimes.
629 People think we're kidding but we're serious and then after a while it just kind of
630 (.) I start talking. (.) He'll call and we just never really address it totally.

631

632 I: So you kinda go around it till it goes away?

633

634 F1: It just kinda goes away. (pause)

635

636 I: Do you ever feel, um, you expect more from the relationship than you
637 actually get?

638

639 F1: Mm hmm. Yeah, I mean, it's just hard though cause he's a guy. I mean, I
640 keep saying that my, both my same-sex and him are the same relationship, and
641 that's true, but (.) girls can express, this is total generalization, but most of the
642 time, I guess I should say, girls can express themselves more emotionally and a lot

643 better than a guy can. And he does it every once in a while. And he (.) you know,
 644 spits that out sometimes, how he appreciates or he'll do something little like, for
 645 my birthday or whatever. Um (.) sometimes I want a little more out of it, but I
 646 never hold that up cause I know it's not, my boyfriend's the same way. It's just
 647 how they are, ya know, they're not going to be like, "Oh, I love you so much.
 648 You're such a wonderful part of my life." So, I look for the little things.

649

650 I: Do you ever think he's expecting more out of you than (.)

651

652 F1: No.

653

654 I: No. You don't ever think he's expecting too much?

655

656 F1: No. I mean, (.) I'm trying to think (.) expecting too much (pause)

657 sometimes (.) but I don't think it's, it's not a mean thing, I mean. This girl thing

658 that he's goin' through. He (pause) is so upset and cries and gets so upset almost

659 everyday. He's been okay now for a few days, but I mean, that's very draining on

660 somebody who has a thesis to write, and who's stressed out, who is apart from her

661 boyfriend, that kind of thing. And I end up getting mad, but that's kind of

662 expecting a lot for someone to, uh, (.)

663

664 I: Just getting worn out?

665

666 F1: Yeah.

667

668 I: You aren't really mad at him but you're just

669

670 F1: Worn out from saying the same thing. Yeah, exactly.

671

672 I: I understand. Um, okay, moving

673 []

674 F1: God this is like a therapy session. (laugh)

675

676 I: Moving to, uh, the next few questions, uh, they're kinda, like, the future of

677 the relationship.

678

679 F1: (laugh)

680

681 I: What do you think, where do you see your friendship in five years?

682

683 F1: Um, actually we were joking about this, I (.) I think he will, he will always

684 be a very significant part of my life. (.) And in five years, I think it will be the

685 same way, regardless of if we're married or whatever. Uh, I was actually telling

686 him, what am I gonna do with him when I get married? He can't be a bridesmaid.

687 Ya know? Like, seriously, what do you do? And we were laughing, I'm like, "You

- 688 can't be an usher, cause that's kinda for your cousins or, so." What do you do? So
 689 I told him, "You're just gonna have to be a groomsman." Yeah, I did and I was
 690 I: [I have seen it though]
 691 think about that but he'd just feel kinda gay. Ya know? Feel like, (.) girly, ya
 692 know, so I said "Well, I think you'll probably be in Paul's side." So, we were
 693 joking about that, but so obviously he'll be a big, (.) he'll be a big part. No matter,
 694 no matter where he goes he'll be probably like an uncle M1, someday, ya know?
 695
 696 I: Uh, huh. (.) So what if you live in separate cities or separate states even,
 697 um (.) as far as, the interaction is gonna change as far as how often do you think,
 698 or what kind of affect do you think it will have on the relationship, or do you think
 699 it will have an affect on it?
 700
 701 F1: I think it will be hard just cause I'm so used to seeing him and talking to
 702 him and he, he really has been a significant part of my life and for my family. My
 703 brother, he's helped my brother out with stuff in high school and M1 did get me
 704 through a couple hard things really hard, tough things in high school and did listen
 705 to me. Um, I think, that'll be hard cause that kind of support is different than any
 706 other I have right now. (.) Um (.) but, I think that calling or sending a letter or e-
 707 mail and maybe visiting. That kind of think and I don't think it'll (.) it'll ever die
 708 out. You know, it's been too much a strong part of my life, so.
 709
 710 I: so, where do you see (.) um (.) I know you were just joking, like, where is
 711 he gonna fit into the wedding but after you're married, (.) where do you see your
 712 friendship? How do you see that fitting into it? Cause often time you hear people
 713 say they just don't have time or many times parents and um, married couples
 714 almost become absorbed in their own family.
 715
 716 F1: Um, I think, I have friends that are like that. But, I think before they were
 717 married (.) they were kinda the same way (.) very involved in each other and I am
 718 so opposite, um, I (.) like to do things with other people. I think that's a very
 719 important part of and when you're first married how fun is it to finally have a place
 720 where everyone can go party at and have a good time. Not like at your parents'
 721 house when you're like, "Shh, my parents are sleeping, and I'm 23 years old." Ya
 722 know? Um, I think that, I think that he'll be like an uncle M1, and I think he'll be,
 723 I'm very into friends, and I'm very into having a good time and having, ya know,
 724 doing stuff with other people. I just don't want to get sick of the same thing day-
 725 after-day. So, I think (.) after, I don't know about him, after he gets married cause
 726 he gets very involved in his relationships, but, um, I think he'll still be a
 727 significant, and ya know, just the going out to dinner with a group of people on
 728 weekends I think that's what (.) it'll be. Kinda the same but I just won't see him
 729 everyday. Grad school's kinda hard cause you live with these people. So, besides
 730 that, that's how it's gonna be.
 731
 732 I: See that was pretty painless. Wasn't it?
 733 []

734 F1:

That was fine.

Appendix E

2 Joint Interview with Dyad 1

3 Dyad 1 (28 minutes, 38 seconds)

4

5 This had to be transcribed off the videotape because the audiotape didn't
6 work for this one. That's why some sections are inaudible.

7

8 I: Um (.) once again, thank you so much for participating. (.) And to let you
9 know (.) from this research I hope that I contribute to people's understanding about
10 cross-sex friendship (.) and I know being in a cross-sex friendship you guys have a
11 lot of things to deal with from outside influences and I'm hoping to help others
12 understand this friendship a little bit better than what they may understand right
13 now. And (.) uh (.) hopefully in turn it will make it easier on those cross-sex
14 friends (.) to be just friends (.) so what I'd first like to start is by asking if the two
15 of you have, uh, seen or talked to each other (.) what?

16 []
17 F1: ()
18 []

19 M1: (laugh)

20

21 F1: Sorry. Go ahead.

22

23 I: If you two have seen or talked to each other since our individual
24 interviews?

25

26 M1: Yeah

27 []

28 F1: Yeah

29

30 I: Okay. Have you guys talked anything about our interviews that I had with
31 each of you?

32

33 F1: Oh (.) we haven't, have

34 []

35 M1: No, I (.) I (.) I, I, I (pause)

36

37 F1: (laugh) Oh! Say I one more time! (laugh)

38 []

39 I: (laugh)

40

41 M1: Actually (.) I (.) talked to "F1" and I think I mentioned, "Did you think
42 some of those questions were funny?" ya know

43

44 F1: Something like that, but

45 M1: Nothin', Nothing detailed.

46

- 47 F1: I didn't tell him anything.
 48
 49 I: Okay. That's fine. I just wanted to find out.
 50
 51 F1: (laugh)
 52 []
 53 M1: (laugh)
 54
 55 I: Um (.)
 56
 57 M1: I (.) I (.) I (.) (laugh)
 58 []
 59 F1: (laugh)
 60
 61 I: Okay (.) um (.) what I'd like for the two of you to do is to (.) tell me, you
 62 okay?
 63 []
 64 F1: (laugh) I'm sorry I'll stop
 65 laughing.
 66
 67 I: To tell me the uh story of how you guys became friends so (.) together I
 68 want you guys to tell me the story of how you guys became friends and who ever
 69 wants to start you can go ahead and if the other person wants to add anything or if
 70 M1: [I think (.) "F1" (.)]
 71 you remember something different or if uh (.) whatever the situation is you guys
 72 can jump in.
 73
 74 M1: The first time I remember meeting you was in, uh, junior high and it was in
 75 either the biology or chemistry class.
 76
 77 F1: Wow, you have a lot more detailed memory than I do. I
 78 []
 79 M1: Okay Cause that's when,
 80 (.) if I'd met "F1" before that I did, but what I remember meeting from "F1" the
 81 first time was that day.
 82
 83 F1: I really don't (.) I don't think I even had a (.) I'm trying to think (.) I said
 84 Matt "W".
 85
 86 M1: Yeah, we
 87 []
 88 F1: It was from Matt "W".
 89
 90 M1: I had mentioned
 91 []

- 92 F1: Through, like family dinners and you'd come over and that was the
 93 first time I, I remember meeting (.) before school started.
 94 [] []
 95 M1: Okay Well, that's you know what, and it
 96 probably is but, I (.) I (.) I (.)
 97 []
 98 F1: STOP it! (laugh)
 99
 100 M1: Geez, (.) I clearly remember meeting you for the first time in school. So.
 101
 102 F1: Okay, I didn't even know we had class together.
 103
 104 M1: Yeah we did. And (.) did you (.) did you move in the summer? Or in the
 105 fall or in the middle of the school year?
 106
 107 F1: I moved in the fall.
 108
 109 M1: So you didn't come into the school new at first?
 110
 111 F1: Yes I did.
 112
 113 M1: But, like, you didn't come at the beginning did you?
 114
 115 F1: Mm Hm.
 116
 117 M1: Oh okay.
 118
 119 I: Okay (.) that's fine
 120
 121 F1: (laugh)
 122 []
 123 M1: (laugh)
 124
 125 I: Um (.) anyway, what I was just gonna say is to have you guys tell me the
 126 story of how you guys became friends. Aside from
 127 []
 128 F1: It was Matt "W" that had us become friends
 129 []
 130 M1: Matt, yeah that's what I was sayin
 131 how she lived across the street from him and um I met "F1" through Matt, yeah
 132 basically Matt.
 133
 134 I: Okay. So aside from just meeting each other, how'd you guys become
 135 friends, I mean?
 136
 137 M1: Just (.)

- 138 I: You meet a lot of people and you don't become friends with them but you
 139 guys
 140 []
 141 M1: That's true
 142
 143 F1: It's just time and we went on a family vacation early on to this guy Matt's
 144 cabin and "M1" went with
 145
 146 M1: And "F1"'s brother and (.) was on my dad's baseball team and so her dad
 147 helped coach.
 148
 149 F1: So we were always kinda, always seeing each other and he'd be at Matt's
 150 and (.) um, Matt was very strange and so we had a common thing to laugh and
 151 comment about all the time.
 152
 153 M1: Whoa (laughs)
 154
 155 F1: You know it's true (laugh)
 156
 157 M1: He was just, he was, ya know,
 158
 159 F1: "M1" he was strange.
 160
 161 M1: Anyways (.) and (.) that's the fact that they were neighbors and um (.) Matt
 162 and "F1" kinda had a thing for each other.
 163
 164 F1: Two seconds out of my life (laugh)
 165
 166 M1: Okay.
 167
 168 I: Okay, what I'm, (.) I wasn't quite sure of from doing interviews with each
 169 of you, (.) when exactly was it toward the end of eighth grade that you guys started
 170 becoming friends was it at the beginning of eighth grade?
 171 []
 172 F1: I think it was more toward
 173 []
 174 I: Cause you both said
 175 eighth grade but I wasn't sure when.
 176 []
 177 M1: We met in the eighth grade but it was more high school.
 178 []
 179 F1: Yeah, (.) freshman year of high school
 180 []
 181 M1: Yeah but
 182 []

- 183 I: Freshman year of high
 184 school?
 185
 186 F1: As it went on it just got stronger.
 187
 188 M1: But senior year was the strongest.
 189
 190 F1: Junior
 191
 192 M1: Junior senior year, (.) yeah
 193 [] []
 194 F1: Junior Yeah
 195 I: Okay.
 196 []
 197 M1: Yeah. Junior senior year, yeah definitely
 198
 199 F1: Cause we started going to dances in groups
 200 []
 201 M1: That's right, that's right
 202
 203 I: Oh, okay (.) so you guys started hanging out then in your freshman year?
 204 Or what?
 205
 206 F1: Yeah we'd do stuff, family wise and other friends freshman year but we
 207 really, we were still kinda into separate crowds. (.) But then when it got about
 208 M1: [Mm Hm]
 209 junior year
 210
 211 M1: Yeah, I agree.
 212 []
 213 F1: Even sophomore year a little bit though
 214
 215 M1: Yeah, I agree.
 216
 217 F1: It was just like a gradual build almost like and so.
 218
 219 M1: Yeah.
 220
 221 I: And then the Minnesota trips. What can you guys tell me about those cause
 222 you both mentioned em?
 223
 224 M1: I had a blast (laugh) I, (.) Matt (.) Matt and I were really good friends,
 225 we're still good friends. We still e-mail each other and
 226
 227 F1: I think he's weird.

- 228 M1: And um, (.) so (.) but (.) their families (.) they're friends (.) er (laugh)
 229 "F1"'s family is good friends with their family and uh it was, gosh, how many
 230 summers in a row did we go up there?
 231
 232 F1: It was like four summers, for the four years.
 233
 234 M1: I mean, yeah, I went up there since fourth grade and then (.) when "F1"'s
 235 family started going along I'd just hop on with them.
 236
 237 F1: Yeah, so
 238
 239 M1: And it was just a blast, I mean, I had a good time
 240
 241 F1: And I (.) was really only (.) they had a younger girl there but, I wouldn't
 242 have gone if he didn't go cause I didn't really like them (.) they weren't really (.)
 243 normal (.) I guess is the only way I can say it so the fact that "M1" was there made
 244 it easier.
 245
 246 M1: Mm hm. Yeah.
 247
 248 I: Okay, so what'd you guys do on those, I mean just go up there and
 249
 250 F1: Just go hang out by the lake and (.) roller blade (.) and
 251
 252 M1: Swim, fish, boat.
 253 []
 254 F1: There's not really much to do up there except for
 255 []
 256 M1: I think it's fun. I have a great time
 257 out there, I mean, for me, my, I mean for my interests it's, it satisfies what I like to
 258 do. So, but, I mean, (.) for the most part, yeah I can see how it could be kinda
 259 boring. But for me, (.) I thought it was cool.
 260
 261 I: Okay. Okay (.) um, I have a question and this is something "M1" you
 262 mentioned and I don't think it was a taboo one so, I will ask you about um.
 263
 264 F1: No we never made out! (laugh)
 265
 266 M1: (laugh)
 267
 268 I: (laugh) No.
 269
 270 M1: That's on tape! (laugh)
 271
 272 I: There was a, there was a story "M1" told me about in high school about a
 273 test.

274 M1: Oh.
 275 []
 276 F1: I hate you.
 277
 278 M1: There's nothing wrong with that!
 279
 280 I: I was just wondering if you guys could tell me that story.
 281 []
 282 F1: Yeah! Well since "M1"
 283 already told you, let me give you another take on it.
 284
 285 I: Okay.
 286
 287 M1: Oh god. (laugh)
 288
 289 F1: Um (.) We were in (laugh) psychology senior year?
 290
 291 M1: That's right psychology. That's the class.
 292
 293 F1: Senior year?
 294
 295 M1: Yes.
 296
 297 F1: Um (.) and the tests were right behind us (.) I think it was you that said it
 298 first.
 299
 300 M1: I did.
 301
 302 F1: And you were like, ya know, "Take it" or something and I didn't take it, but
 303 "M1", "M1" grabbed it and gave it to me and I put it in my folder shut my folder
 304 and just sat there and I used to bring Cosmos all the time to school.
 305
 306 M1: That's right (laugh)
 307
 308 F1: And our teacher always wanted to look at them so he's like, "'F1", do you
 309 have anymore of those Cosmos?" I'm like, "Yeah, I do. I have them." So I open my
 310 folder there's the Cosmos there's the test (laugh). (.) And my bestest friend in the
 311 world didn't say anything and I got in trouble but the last day of class, What'd he
 312 say to you?
 313
 314 M1: He
 315
 316 F1: He knew, he knew that it was both of us.
 317
 318 M1: He knew, and ya know what as I look back on it though, I mean (.)
 319

- 320 F1: Yeah but your grade didn't change. He gave me a D on the final, no he
 321 gave me, I flunked (.) the last test cause he had to fail me that test and then
 322 []
 323 M1: But didn't you end up getting a C in
 324 the class?
 325
 326 F1: Yeah but Jesus Christ.
 327
 328 M1: I got a, I think I got a, I either got a high C or a B. I (.)
 329
 330 F1: I flunked the last test and he didn't
 331
 332 I: Well, the reason I brought that particular incident up was because
 333
 334 M1: To break out friendship up? (laugh)
 335
 336 I: No! I was going to point out that that was a point where trust was built so I
 337 was kinda wondering about that.
 338
 339 M1: (whispers) Yeah I could say after that or mis-trust on my part (laugh).
 340
 341 F1: (laugh)
 342
 343 I: Okay, the other thing I was hoping you guys could tell me about (.) were
 344 um (.) you both mentioned the concession stand.
 345
 346 F1: (laugh)
 347
 348 M1: (laugh)
 349
 350 I: Tell me about that.
 351
 352 F1: I loved that place.
 353
 354 M1: That was fun.
 355
 356 F1: We were just obnoxious workers and I was "M1"'s manager and it was two
 357 summers in a row?
 358
 359 M1: Yeah easily.
 360
 361 F1: And it was just the best job. We just ate the food.
 362
 363 M1: (laugh)
 364
 365 F1: Acted like assholes in front of the customers.

- 366 I: Where was this at?
367
- 368 F1: Orland Park. Just like, a, just like a baseball field.
369 []
- 370 M1: Did you Did you tell the story the,
371 uh, steroids I took? Did that come up?
372
- 373 F1: (laugh) um
374
- 375 M1: You want (.) can we say that? Is that part of the
376
- 377 I: What was this?
378
- 379 M1: Um, when we were at, one summer I had poison ivy.
380
- 381 F1: No! (laugh) Why don't you tell how you got the poison ivy. (pause) cause
382 you lit yourself on fire.
383 []
- 384 M1: Oh yeah! Yeah! Okay, okay. (.) I was doing construction that summer
385 along with R.H.R. and (.) actually I still have a scar here.
386
- 387 I: What's R.H.R?
388
- 389 M1: Red Hot Revue
390 []
- 391 F1: Red Hot Revue. It's our name
392
- 393 M1: And (.) we were putting this rubbish together to burn it and we didn't have
394 anything to start it so we had to use gas, and gas is very (snaps) you know. (.) so
395 F1: [(laugh)]
396 the gas is on there and I take the match, like with my left hand I go like this, no, no
397 wait. With my right hand and I turn around like this from the flame and I just
398 started walking (.) Boom! (.) it just blows up, right and I get (.) my arm, you can
399 kinda tell, I got a scar, like, my face, and my hair it was all burning and so I was
400 like, ya know, stop drop and roll and rolled into some (laugh) a patch of (laugh)
401 poison ivy and I'm rollin' around in it and so that just made it worse and this, this
402 was like the eighth time in a row I've had poison ivy. I always go it every summer
403 and so I
404
- 405 F1: They put you on, they put him on steroids.
406
- 407 M1: Yeah, it was like these steroids to help it, you know, and then you know the
408 side effects of steroids.
409
- 410 F1: You didn't, you didn't know that the time though did you?
411 []

- 412 M1: So I, I put the two
 413 together, I don't know.
 414 []
 415 F1: Like, it's, it's, you can get really 'roid rage.
 416
 417 M1: Alright, so then we're at the Red Hot Revue and Greg "H".
 418
 419 F1: () The boss.
 420
 421 M1: Yeah, and a friend of their family too (.) he gave out the coupons for free
 422 hotdogs and pop. And that's great, right? But we didn't know about it. So when we
 423 get there, there's already like, a line and their all like "hotdogs" and we've got this
 424 crappy equipment that won't cook the hotdogs fast (.) and so (.) ya know (.)
 425 everybody, everybody in line wants the damn hotdogs and drink and finally it's
 426 just like, ya know, "I'm sorry we don't have it" and everybody's getting pissed and
 427 I'm getting pissed, it's hot, the 'roids are kickin' in
 428 []
 429 F1: The hotdogs are cold
 430
 431 M1: Yeah the hotdogs are cold and so it was her, (.) Danny, and I, Danny her
 432 brother Danny, (.) and I finally get up (.) on top of the (laugh) these stand things
 433 and I just go "LISTEN UP, we don't have the hotdogs ready, we're sorry." Blah,
 434 blah blah. Ya know? "If you're patient," I'm trying to control myself, "we'll get the
 435 hotdogs and you can come back."
 436
 437 F1: Your face was so red!
 438
 439 M1: Yeah, I was furious. And I get down and the next person in line goes, "Can
 440 I have a hotdog?" And so, I just lost it. I'm like, "We're closing down, let's just
 441 close down."
 442
 443 F1: (laugh) And then he left me there cause he got so mad. Did I tell you to go
 444 home?
 445
 446 M1: yeah. And then I walked out there and I walked out, and I swear to God I
 447 F1: [I was, like, "Get out of here"]
 448 thought one of the parents along the way was going to fight me. So, one of the
 449 F1: [I thought you'd come back. You didn't come back.]
 450 older parents
 451
 452 I: Is this at, like, a kids baseball thing?
 453
 454 F1: Yeah
 455
 456 I: Okay
 457

- 458 F1: And I thought you were gonna come back. I didn't think you'd really leave
 459 me there.
 460
- 461 M: Well, I was really mad. Not at you. I was just mad.
 462
- 463 F1: Well, so I went home to my mom and I was telling her "M1" was nuts, well
 464 it was a little more than that he was really nuts and mad (.) Mad! And she's like
 465 "Well, he's usually not like that" and then she told me about the steroids so I was
 466 like, "Oh."
 467
- 468 M1: And I didn't even, I mean, I've been on those pills for, like, almost every
 469 summer for poison ivy (laugh) but I never went off the handle like that.
 470 []
 471 F1: No wonder.
 472
- 473 I: What summer was that? When was that?
 474
- 475 M1: Geez, that was.
 476
- 477 F1: 96?
 478
- 479 M1: Yeah, no (.) maybe it was in college, we were in college still.
 480
- 481 F1: I think it was, summer, summer after freshman year.
 482
- 483 M1: Yeah (.) I think it was that year (.) Gosh (.) many memories.
 484
- 485 I: (laugh) Um (.) another thing you both mentioned in your interviews with
 486 me was uh (.) Duncan Donuts.
 487
- 488 F1: (laugh)
 489 []
- 490 M1: (laugh) Fat night yeah (.) that's, uh, after (.) after eating all day at Red Hot
 491 Revue (laugh)
 492
- 493 F1: (laugh) We'd go to Duncan Donuts and eat more (laugh) I called it fat
 494 nights, which I think I forgot to say but, um, (.) when I'd be depressed about a guy
 495 or whatever (.) "M1" would always be good to go on fat nights and usually it was
 496 Duncan Donuts (.) and then sometimes afterwards we'd go to Taco Bell (.) One
 497 night (.) what did we do? Duncan Donuts, Taco Bell, McDonalds (laugh) and then
 498 back to Duncan Donuts. (.) It was bad.
 499 []
- 500 M1: Then what But we always got at the Duncan Donuts, we
 501 always got (.) uh (.) a tomato bagel? A tomato bagel with um, vegetable? Veggie
 502 F1: [Uh Huh]
 503 lite spread. That's why, we'd cut back. One time on a fat night we went, um, go see

- 504 F1: [Veggie lite, that's right!] [And coffee.]
 505 a movie (laugh) but before-hand, this was like the first fat night, fat night we had
 506 and I didn't know how depressed she was until she goes (.) (laugh) We were at
 507 F1: [(laugh) (claps)]
 508 White Castle and she goes, "Can I have two 20 packs?" (laughing hysterically) I'm
 509 like, "Whoa!" and then those come with like, onion rings and fries and drinks. (.) I
 510 F1: [(laughing hysterically)]
 511 was just, like (.) "Oh, my God!" (laugh) It was, those were funny.
 512
 513 I: When did you guys start doing that?
 514
 515 F1: We started going to Duncan Donuts in high school I think, like, senior
 516 year.
 517
 518 M1: Yeah.
 519
 520 F1: But then when we were at the Red Hot Revue, cause it was, like, right
 521 across the street.
 522
 523 M1: Mm Hm.
 524
 525 F1: And then, now, whenever we're home it's just (.) what we do.
 526
 527 I: When'd you start doing your fat nights?
 528
 529 M1: Uh (.) That's like high school
 530 []
 531 F1: Senior year in high school
 532
 533 I: High school? Was it always just the two of you or were other people there
 534 too?
 535
 536 M1: Naw, usually, just the two
 537 []
 538 F1: Just two of us Nobody else could handle us (laugh)
 539
 540 M1: (laugh)
 541
 542 I: (laugh) Okay.
 543
 544 F1: It was fun.
 545
 546 I: Um (.) Alright, aside from those stories, (.) how (.) could you guys tell me,
 547 or tell each other, I don't know, how you want to go about doing it, but tell each
 548 other (.) like, how you two decided to become friends, because, ya know, as you

- 549 said, there's people you come into contact with all the time and you don't decide to
 550 become friends with them. What was it that you guys
 551 M1: [All the time, yeah]
 552 []
 553 F1: It I think honestly it was just a
 554 gradual thing and then one day, like, (.) one of us called and then it just became
 555 like a normal thing and then.
 556
 557 M1: That whole thing, with um (.) senior year, (.) I told you about that actual
 558 "Friends" group that was three girls, three guys.
 559
 560 F1: Yeah
 561
 562 M1: And that (.) we were so tight-knit with that (.) our group and um (.)
 563
 564 F1: And "M1" and I, well except for Matt, and Matt was never really a good
 565 friend of mine, (.) but we lasted throughout.
 566
 567 M1: I think that (.) well out of all those, I just saw Pete this weekend at the
 568 alumni game.
 569
 570 F1: Right.
 571
 572 M1: And everything, but I mean (.) for the most part (.)
 573
 574 F1: He still have the dog?
 575
 576 M1: Yeah (.)
 577
 578 F1: Sorry
 579
 580 M1: That's alright. For the most part it's still "F1" and I and (.) Lauren and I are
 581 now just friends (.) so that's about it.
 582
 583 F1: But for me it's just him.
 584
 585 M1: Yeah and only because Lauren and I dated I mean that might be one (.)
 586 And even, I think I told you this (.) when Lauren and I started dating (.) that (.) we
 587 weren't (.) we weren't even trying (.) I mean it was kind of rough (.) A hinder in
 588 our friendship (laugh) yeah (.) cause I wasn't (.) up forward with it (.) only because
 589 []
 590 F1: You fat FLAT
 591 OUT! Lied, "M1".
 592 []
 593 M1: Only because I thought that, uh (.) and it did, it ruined our friend- ya know
 594 we weren't like enemies but (.) it was so funny cause I was working at (.) uh (.) (

595) Nursery which is a (.) pretty big place in Frankfurt (.) And they have a
 596 pool party, right? They have a pool party and so I'm like (.) well, who else should I
 597 F1: [This was bad]
 598 bring to the pool party, right? Except for Lauren. And guess who was a lifeguard
 599 in the deep end where the only two people were in the pool.
 600
 601 F1: Hugging and kissing in the pool.
 602
 603 M1: Yup.
 604
 605 F1: And I just sat there and looked at them
 606
 607 M1: And I looked up and I was like, "Hey, "F1"!" She's like "Oh, hey." (laughs)
 608
 609 F1: (laugh)
 610
 611 M1: So that's when she knew Lauren and I weren't just friends.
 612
 613 F1: Yeah
 614
 615 M1: So then uh
 616
 617 F1: I just sat there.
 618
 619 M1: I still remember when Lauren went to go change (.) and you were over
 620 there and I was like, "Hey, "F1"." She's like "Hi, "M1"."
 621
 622 F1: (laugh)
 623
 624 M1: (laugh) And yeah
 625
 626 I: So that kinda (.) put a little
 627 []
 628 F1: But we made it through that too.
 629
 630 M1: Yeah
 631
 632 I: Yeah, well, that's good.
 633
 634 F1: It's not like I've dated the best people either.
 635
 636 M1: Well (.) Uh (.) yeah
 637
 638 F1: (laugh)
 639
 640 I: (laugh)

- 641 M1: That's on tape!
 642
 643 F1: I have not dated good people! There I said it, How's that?
 644 []
 645 M1: (laugh) Well (.) yeah
 646 okay (.) I'm sorry.
 647
 648 I: That's okay. (.) do you have anything you want to add?
 649
 650 F1: Hm Mm
 651
 652 I: To his story or whatever?
 653
 654 F1: No (.) I think (.) well (.) we've just lasted throughout everything that's
 655 happened (.) and things started, I think a lot of it was (.) good because we went to
 656 school together and ended up going to Eastern, then graduate school which (.) also
 657 had a lot to do with each other, ya know? (.) Like, "Are you gonna go to graduate
 658 school?" "Are you?" I mean, that made it a lot easier with like, the transition, but
 659 then when you go through college, I mean, yeah, there's a lot of other people from
 660 our hometown here (.) but, (.) ya know, things happen in your life that are bad, but
 661 got, through whatever, and then ya know, so we're there, which makes the
 662 relationship stronger, so. I mean that's just.
 663
 664 M1: I mean, I was telling Cori how it was more (.) um (.) excuse me (.) with
 665 college (.) (laugh) Sorry (.) with college it was more of uh (.) I think (.) I don't (.)
 666 as far as coming to Eastern, I don't know if we made that decision at the same
 667 time, like (.) "You're going to Eastern? I'm going to Eastern." I think we finally
 668 found out one day, (.) I know we came down here to visit for high school.
 669
 670 F1: We came together to visit.
 671
 672 M1: Yes, I know that, but (.) with Matt and
 673 []
 674 F1: Yeah, I think it was just a (.) cause I think I
 675 got accepted first and then Amy got accepted and then you got accepted so it was
 676 M1: [Yes, you did]
 677 just kinda a
 678
 679 M1: And then with her, even with this major, (.) She was political science first
 680 and I was (.)
 681
 682 F1: Physical therapy
 683
 684 M1: Physical, I'm sorry, physical therapy first
 685
 686 F1: Then political science

687 M1: Then speech. (.) so I was already speech (.) and that's all (.) and even with
688 the P.R. minor (.) I think you were in that first.
689
690 F1: Yeah
691
692 M1: And you were telling me about it
693
694 F1: But it just makes it easier when someone, ya know.
695
696 M1: Yeah
697
698 I: Yeah
699
700 M1: But with grad school that was definitely (.) "Okay, let's do it together."
701
702 F1: We helped each other then (.) cause with that first semester we didn't really
703 know anybody, it was just us.
704
705 M1: Right
706
707 F1: Going into it, so.
708
709 I: So do you think the fact that you guys were just around each other a lot
710 contributed to it or (.) do you think you guys still would have been as close as you
711 are if you had gone separate ways?
712
713 F1: I
714 []
715 M1: Geez (.) I (.) that's a good question.
716
717 F1: I don't know.
718
719 M1: Maybe
720 []
721 F1: I think on some level because (.) I really liked him as a friend, ya know, (.)
722 we had a good time together and he knew my parents.
723
724 M1: Yeah.
725
726 F1: And it's just he (.) he (.) we have, like, I'm friends with his brother, his
727 older brother so (.) I think we always still would have been, but
728
729 M1: Maybe occasional e-mail
730
731 F1: Maybe, not, probably not as close as we are now, I mean we see each other
732 every day.

- 733 M1: And just this past Thursday of this last week, um (.) was it Thursday or
 734 Friday night? When did you come home? When did I call? That Friday night, (.)
 735 no, no (.) that was Thursday night cause Friday was the hockey game, I (.) I was
 736 F1: [yeah]
 737 talking to "F1"'s mom and I ended up coming over and staying there till, like
 738
 739 F1: Midnight
 740
 741 M1: Midnight talking to her and her dad. So we have that (.) as far as (.) talking
 742 to her parents (.) ya know, we're friends like that.
 743 []
 744 F1: I think your parents finally like me.
 745
 746 M1: (laugh) My (.) mom is awkward with people cause she deals with them all
 747 F1: [I love your dad]
 748 day (.)uh that's one of the downfalls.
 749
 750 F1: Girls
 751
 752 M1: Yeah, so it's
 753
 754 I: Huh?
 755
 756 M1: My dad's cool about other girls
 757
 758 F1: Oh! I love your dad!
 759
 760 M1: Yeah, but um (.) yeah (laugh)
 761
 762 F1: Your dad's great
 763
 764 I: What? I just missed that.
 765 []
 766 F1: I saw your dad Saturday. Did he tell you that?
 767
 768 M1: Yeah, he told me. I understood about the camera and everything.
 769
 770 F1: Oh, it's not my fault.
 771
 772 M1: Oh, I, didn't say
 773
 774 F1: Sorry.
 775
 776 M1: No, that's fine. That's fine
 777
 778 F1: Cause I went there today

779 M1: That's (.) they I know I couldn't get a hold of
780
781 F1: Um (.) No, I just (.) I think your mom (.) you're a son (.) we spend a lot (.)
782 there were periods in high school (.) towards the end (.) we did spend a lot of time
783 together and watched movies alone and stuff and I think she kinda thought
784
785 M1: Yeah, but that's (.) and just like your questions before, I mean as far as
786 physical contributions to each other, it's never (.) I think I told her one time (.) uh
787 (.) maybe a couple times freshman year
788
789 F1: You grabbed my ass? (laugh)
790
791 M1: No! (.) (laugh) I just said that sometimes you spent the night in Carman
792 Hall and that was about it.
793
794 F1: Sometimes as a joke, I'd smack ya on the lips.
795
796 M1: Ya know what! Since we're getting back into physical questions (.) you
797 know what "F1" used to do in high school that was really annoying?
798
799 F1: (laugh)
800
801 M1: She used to bite people (.) and I had marks.
802
803 F1: Why are we telling - this has nothing to do with this (laugh)
804
805 M1: That's what friends do. Friends bite each other all the time (.) (laugh)
806 (growls) (laugh)
807
808 F1: You shit. (laugh)
809
810 M1: I forgot to mention that. But that, that was more of a like, literally like, (.)
811 bite you. (.) It was like, "Whoa!" ya know. I mean (.) that's a friend.
812
813 F1: (laughing hysterically)
814
815 M1: (laughing hysterically)
816
817 F1: We (.) I think we, we have pecks on the lips (.)
818
819 M1: Yeah, (.) that's about, that's about it
820
821 F1: And when we fell asleep that one time in your dorm you put your hand on
822 my ass (laugh)
823
824 M1: (laughing) I couldn't resist (laugh) No, I (.) I'm sure I did (laugh)

825 F1: (laugh)
 826
 827 M1: No but all out, go at it, No nothing like that.
 828
 829 F1: Why? What's wrong with me? Am I ugly? (laugh)
 830
 831 M1: I didn't say that "F1" (laugh)
 832
 833 F1: (laugh) Do you not want me? (laugh)
 834
 835 M1: You're putting words in my mouth (laugh)
 836
 837 F1: Is my chest too small? (laughing hysterically)
 838
 839 M1: (laugh) Okay, next question.
 840
 841 I: (laugh) Honestly I don't have a whole lot of questions, I was just looking
 842 for you guys to tell me how you guys became friends.
 843
 844 M1: That's basically
 845
 846 I: I, (.) just a lot of contact?
 847
 848 M1: Just a lot of contact (laugh)
 849 []
 850 F1: (laugh)
 851
 852 M1: Spiritually, physically, emotionally
 853
 854 F1: Mentally
 855
 856 M1: Yeah and so (.) then a lot of the trials and tribulations
 857
 858 F1: We know a lot about each other
 859
 860 M1: Yeah
 861
 862 F1: Secrets
 863
 864 M1: Secrets, exactly
 865
 866 I: So you've just kinda been there for each other and you
 867
 868 F1: Basically
 869
 870 I: So you guys think you'll be as close as you are now or?

- 871 F1: I hope so
872
- 873 I: In the next ten years?
874
- 875 M1: And I had said that (.) if I did end up moving somewhere, something like
876 that, it's (.) I'm (.) if it's just e-mails or phone calls, yeah.
877
- 878 F1: We're too close now not to continue our friendship.
879
- 880 M1: Yeah, I don't know, I mean (.)
881
- 882 F1: We're (.) Not to be sappy (.) but we're part of each other's lives
883
- 884 M1: Yeah, definitely
885
- 886 F1: As friends, so, if he was to move or I were to move or whatever, even if
887 we'd write or call or visit, ya know.
888
- 889 I: Mm Hm. Still maintain contact?
890
- 891 M1: Definitely. I don't think that will ever just stop (.) That's one of the few
892 people I can really say that about. I mean, just, I mean as close to a friend as Matt
893 and Pete are to me, as far as same-sex or guy friends. I mean, Pete and I e-mail
894 each other, very rare. (.) And then (.) But also you want to talk about comparing
895 cross-sex friendship to this, I don't know if this has anything to do with your paper
896 or not (.) Ever since Pete and Matt found some special girls for their lives, less and
897 less. And you know what though, I can relate to that, cause I know when I was
898 with Lauren it was just (.)
899
- 900 F1: But you snapped out of that
901
- 902 M1: Well, (.) yeah I know
903
- 904 F1: You went through that phase for a while and it was only her. But I think
905 you realized that that's not how life's suppose to be.
906 []
- 907 M1: And it's not And I did (.) but I mean (.) At
908 the time (.) and I not only shut out "F1" at the time but I also shut out other friends
909
- 910 F1: But I think you learned your lesson
911
- 912 M1: Oh yeah (.) yeah (.) but um
913
- 914 F1: Yeah they got, they got girlfriends and (.) that was it
915 []
- 916 M1: Gone They were gone

- 917 F1: And you and I've been friends (.) well you've really dated Lauren, but I
 918 dated one too many people back in the day and we still (.) our life still (.) we went
 919 out as (.) once in a while we went out as fours (.) a foursome.
 920
- 921 M1: Right.
 922
- 923 F1: Or he'd come over (.) I mean (.) every, every time I date someone, they
 924 meet him (.) like, it's just a
 925
- 926 M1: And that (.)
 927
- 928 I: That's fine go ahead.
 929
- 930 M1: That's the funny thing too, because (.) I think if I was a guy (.) coming (.) if
 931 I was gonna date "F1", and she invited, (.) said, "This is one of my good friends,
 932 "M1"." And everything, (.) and being the kind of straight forward person I am with
 933 my personality (.) I'd probably be like, "What the hell is this kid doin'?" And that's
 934 funny cause people always ask, "What's with you and "F1"?" or " what's with you
 935 F1: [I know, all the time.]
 936 and "M1"?" We're just like, "We're just friends." Ya know?
 937
- 938 F1: But no boyfriend of mine (.) has ever (.) like sometimes you usually think
 939 that, but they always (.) they understand up front. "M1"'s a really good friend of
 940 mine (.) and if they were ever to make anything of that (.) then (.) screw you.
 941
- 942 I: Give up the relationship?
 943 []
- 944 F1: Yeah, cause it's pointless. Why (.) I'm (.) I don't want to date
 945 someone who's not going to trust me (.) and they should be happy that I have
 946 someone like him (.) My dad's (.) my dad always says, "I'm happy"- that when I
 947 went on vacation you were there (.) or I'm here alone at night and you're here.
 948
- 949 M1: Right, (.) that was the whole thing, like, freshman year, too (.) because, Mr.
 950 "F1" knew that (.)
 951
- 952 F1: Didn't he (.) What was that thing he said he was going to pay you monthly
 953 to keep an eye on me?
 954
- 955 M1: Yeah, that was (.) that's
 956
- 957 F1: You did a really good job, "M1".
 958
- 959 M1: (laugh) Well, ya know, "F1", that was the time you (.) experimented
 960 []
- 961 F1: I'll probably have to start,
 962 well, (.) now I'm in that again. So you're probably gonna have to keep an eye on me.

963 []
 964 M1: No! You got
 965 a couple weeks left, you'll be fine (laugh).
 966
 967 F1: I know!
 968
 969 I: Do you guys have anything else you want to add about your friendship?
 970
 971 F1: I hate you (laugh)
 972
 973 I: That makes it unique?
 974
 975 M1: No, I (.) no (.) I think it's a rare friendship when we can find and be like
 976 that.
 977
 978 F1: Yeah
 979
 980 M1: and not have that, like, you know (.) the physical attraction (.)
 981 []
 982 F1: What (.) am I ugly?
 983
 984 M1: "F1"! No (.) I'm just saying that I mean I think we can respect each other
 985 F1: [(laughing)]
 986 that way (.) respect each other's boundaries (.) and that I think if it ever did come
 987 to something like that, I think it'd be awkward enough to not be friends anymore
 988 after that.
 989
 990 F1: Yeah!
 991
 992 M1: So (.) I mean that (.) it's not even worth that couple (.) minutes (.) or
 993 seconds for me at least (laugh)
 994 []
 995 F1: HHHHHH!! (laugh) Oh my God! That's gotta go off now!
 996
 997 I: Actually you know what popped into my head was that you thought of each
 998 other as brother and sister and that was just like (.) (laugh)
 999
 1000 F1: "M2"!
 1001
 1002 M1: I know, yes, I mean (.) if "F1" (.) she said this too, if "F1" was (.) if "F1"
 1003 was a guy, and I got married, she'd be best man.
 1004
 1005 F1: I said that about him too. You'd either be a bridesmaid or be on the other
 1006 side.
 1007
 1008 M1: Yeah, so, that (.) it's (.) that's (.) that's just (.) yeah.

1009 F1: I got close to one Shannon a little while ago and that's enough to last a
1010 lifetime.
1011
1012 M1: My brother (laugh)
1013
1014 F1: Oops. That's his fault. I was drunk.
1015
1016 M1: Well, you know. Things happen like that.
1017
1018 F1: His brother just kissed me. (.) that was a funny story to tell "M1" too.
1019
1020 M1: I was just jealous I couldn't be the first one (laugh)
1021
1022 F1: Aw, geez! Alright, "M1". (.) did we help you ?
1023
1024 I: Yeah, thanks!
1025
1026 M1: No problem, "I".
1027
1028 I: You guys were great.
1029
1030 M1: Thanks for the pop.

Appendix F

3 Individual Interview with Male 2

4 Male 2 (15 minutes, 32 seconds)

5

6 I: First, I want to thank you for participating. I really appreciate it and I'd like
 7 to remind you that all of your answers are confidential. Um, (.) your name will
 8 probably be changed for anonymity within the findings. Um, if you're
 9 uncomfortable answering any of the questions just tell me and we'll move on.

10

11 M2: Okay

12

13 I: Don't feel that you have to answer. These first couple questions are just
 14 about, just so I can get an idea of where the relationship is now, but (.) how long
 15 have you and your partner been friends.

16

17 M2: Um, I'm trying to think (.) since September so that'd be seven months
 18 maybe.

19

20 I: Okay. And how would you describe your relationship to someone who
 21 doesn't know either of you? How would you describe it?

22

23 M2: Oh. We get along great. We have a lot of fun together, um, and we, we can
 24 really tell each other anything, it's cool. So.

25

26 I: Kinda like a close friendship or best friendship?

27

28 M2: It's, it's close.

29

30 I: Close?

31

32 M2: Yeah.

33

34 I: (Pause) On a scale of one to five with one being high and five being low,
 35 which would best describe your level of involvement in this relationship recently?
 36 (pause) like, how much have you been involved in?

37

38 M2: Hm, I'd guess a two.

39

40 I: Two? And how would you rate your partner?

41

42 M2: Um, I'd think the same. Cause we both (.) we've got our things goin' on.
 43 So it's hard to

44

45 I: Alright, well that's good. Okay then the next questions I have are pretty
 46 much, they're just meant to show and kinda give me an idea of how this friendship

47 developed and how you two became friends or got to the point now, so, um, some
 48 of the questions may not have definitive answers that you can say "yes! This is the
 49 exact day." Or the exact moment but just kinda answer to the best that you can
 50 remember or if it doesn't apply to your particular relationship just say, "We've
 51 never had that." Ya know, something like that.

52

53 M2: Okay

54

55 I: First, when was the first time you remember meeting your partner?

56

57 M2: Spanish class (pause)

58

59 I: Spanish class, okay

60

61 M2: Probably the second week into it or so.

62

63 I: Of last fall?

64

65 M2: Yes

66

67 I: Um, what was the, er, just when you were in class pretty much and that
 68 was it?

69

70 M2: Um (.) yeah cause I had a shirt that said Belleville and her boyfriend is
 71 from Belleville and it started everything there.

72

73 I: Okay. (.) Did you talk with her the first time you saw her? Your first
 74 encounter?

75

76 M2: Yeah, we, (.) I ended up.

77 []

78 I: Do you remember what you talked about?

79

80 M2: I don't know if it was the first cause I know we each had a class to go to
 81 afterward and then probably either that day or the next um I saw her in one of the
 82 dining centers and we ate and we talked for, like, two hours, just, I don't know
 83 what about. She (.) she ended up, uh, convincing me to join the speech team then
 84 (.) so just everything really.

85

86 I: Using her persuasion

87

88 M2: Yeah

89

90 I: Um were you first physically attracted to your partner whenever you first
 91 saw her? (pause) Naw? Do you think she was attracted to you?

92

93 M2: I don't think so.

94

95 I: No, okay. How soon after the first time you guys started talking or the first time you
96 hung out did you see her again? (.) I guess if you had class you probably saw her in class

97

[]

98 M2: Yeah, (.) it was

99 four days a week. So.

100

101 I: Okay, Um. (.) And what kind of topics in the early time where you guys
102 were just starting to become friends, what kind of topics did you guys talk about?

103

104 M2: Hmm, usually like, where we're from kinda, how high school was. Things
105 like that.

106

107 I: Yeah.

108

109 M2: Just kinda to get a background.

110

111 I: Alright (pause) And what was your impression of your partner in these first
112 initial encounters? What did you think?.

113

114 M2: She seemed so sweet and she still does (laugh) it's just, like, (.) yeah sweet
115 and fun to be around. Someone who I knew I could really (.) like, ya know.

116

117 I: What do you think her first impression of you was?

118

119 M2: Oh that's hard. (.) I don't know. She said something like, the reason she
120 brought up the whole speech team thing was something about my personality or
121 something so it was (.) kinda off a little (laugh) I don't know what exactly it was
122 though, (.) I don't know.

123

124 I: Um, did you think you had much in common with her in these first couple
125 interactions? Do you think you had a whole lot in common or could you see this
126 being a friendship?

127

128 M2: Yeah I could see it, hmm. (.) Things in common. (.) I guess we did we had
129 a lot of things to work from and then there were differences which (.) we've since
130 talked about (.) it's just cause it's cool, ya know, cause you can't be alike in
131 everything, so.

132

133 I: So what kind of things did you see you had in common or even in the
134 differences? What did you see?

135

[]

136 M2: Hmm Oh my! (laugh) (pause) I really, I know we both liked our
137 Spanish teacher (.) a lot (.) um (.) it's really hard to say. And even differences, 'm
138 not certain cause (.) I don't know (.) Nothing specific (.) I'm sorry I don't know.

- 139 []
 140 I: That's okay That's
 141 alright. When was the first time or has there been a time where you have shared
 142 something personal with your partner?
 143
 144 M2: Just one instance?
 145
 146 I: Yeah, when was the first time that you can remember doing it? How long
 147 into the friendship?
 148 []
 149 M2: Oh! The first! Oh my!
 150 It couldn't have been long, like more than a month, cause she
 151 likes to open up. I guess, so (.) we um (.) we just started talking (.) I think we went
 152 to dinner one night and it wasn't (.) it was still pretty early in the semester about
 153 midway or so, I don't know But we, like, talked the whole was and talked there
 154 and it tended to get a little deep then.
 155
 156 I: Where do you like, um where do you guys live in relation to one another?
 157 []
 158 M2: Oh I
 159 live in Carman and for first semester she lived in Taylor but since she moved to
 160 Weller for spring semester.
 161
 162 I: Okay, alright so you're living Carman and she's in Weller?
 163
 164 M2: MM Hmm
 165
 166 I: Okay (.) alright, when was the first time you shared something with you?
 167 Like you shared something with her, but when did she share something with you?
 168
 169 M2: About the same time.
 170
 171 I: Same time?
 172
 173 M2: Yeah.
 174 []
 175 I: You both just kinda opened up? Um, at what point did you two feel you
 176 had established a sense of trust with each other?
 177
 178 M2: (pause) I guess it must have come before that (.) probably three to four
 179 weeks into it I'm guessing, (.) I don't know.
 180
 181 I: What made you feel you could trust her? What made you feel you could?
 182
 183 M2: Just, I don't know (.) I can read people pretty well usually and just right
 184 away I could tell that she was just that kind of person. So

185 I: Yeah, Have you and your partner ever talked about potential sexual or
 186 romantic feelings toward one another?

187

188 M2: Nope

189

190 I: No, Never have? Have you ever joked or like um had other people say
 191 things like, "Oh, yeah something must be going on there." Or anything like that
 192 where you deal with that kind of issue?

193

194 M2: Hmm mm.

195

196 I: Hm mm. Okay, Um (.) Has it ever been an issue or a problem in your
 197 relationship issue or a problem in your relationship that you think maybe an
 198 outside person doesn't quite understand the relationship? (.) Like, if you were
 199 dating somebody how would you like, if you were dating somebody how would
 200 you explain your friendship to that person?

201

202 M2: (pause) I don't think I'd need to it's not it wouldn't be a problem.

203

204 I: Okay. So how often do you and your partner interact now?

205

206 M2: Um.

207 I: Before, I guess last semester you guys had class pretty much (.) everyday.

208

[]

[]

209 M2:

Yeah

Yeah cause

210 last semester we saw each other pretty much everyday. Um (.) this semester we
 211 don't have any classes together, so, (.) we see (.) definitely once a week at the
 212 meetings for speech sometimes more when we'd go on tournaments together and
 213 then usually once or twice a week. We'd all do dinner together so it really varied
 214 from, like, one to all week ya know.

215

216 I: Yeah, kinda off and on right now?

217

218 M2: Yeah, yeah.

219

220 I: Yeah, Okay, Um (.) What kind of activities do you guys do together now?

221

222 M2: Dinner, Um (.) sometimes we'll just, like (.) a couple of weekends ago we
 223 decided to have, like, a bonding night, so (.) we just, we went and saw the play
 224 "No Exit" and then we saw the opera and then we went to McDonald's and (.)
 225 Dinner before that (laugh) and so it was just (.) and then back to my room we just
 226 talked for two or three hours. So.

227

228 I: Cool. What kind of things do you talk about now? Before you said you'd
 229 talk about class, er, the teacher or whatever. What kind of things do you guys talk
 230 about now?

231 M2: Um, (.) (laugh) Actually this last weekend (.) got, like into the whole sex
 232 thing, like not between us, but just how, like, each of us feel about it and different
 233 ideas and such. Not like, you know what I mean.

234 []

235 I: Yeah like differing views.

236

237 M2: Yeah, and just kinda just really opened up in that respect, um, (,) a little bit
 238 about religion but not so much. But yeah, it's definitely gotten a lot deeper than
 239 when it started.

240

241 I: Do you guys ever talk about the future or what?

242

243 M2: Oh yeah.

244

245 I: Like what about? Like what you guys wanna do?

246

247 M2: Mm hm

248

249 I: Are there topics you would not talk to your partner about? (pause)

250 Anything you would not feel comfortable sharing?

251

252 M2: Not any specific topic. Maybe, like, specific instances, but not, any topics.
 253 in general.

254

255 I: Um, why wouldn't you want to share certain instances? Or certain things
 256 like that?

257

258 M2: I don't know. Usually, they're just things I don't want anybody to know.

259 (laugh)

260

261 I: (laugh) Doesn't matter who it is just don't want them to know.

262 []

[]

263 M2: Yeah

Right

264

265 I: Okay. Do you feel this friendship is different from your same-sex
 266 friendships?

267

268 M2: Actually, haven't got many. Like, almost all my friends are girls. Um.

269

270 I: Do you feel this friendship is different from those friendships?

271

272 M2: Yeah, I do. It's just (.) cause I can really open up to her and there's only a
 273 few people like that. So (.) yeah.

274

275 I: So what are, like, the benefits to this particular, cause you said you have
 276 other cross-sex friends, so what would be the benefits of this particular

- 277 M2: Cause I know I won't be judged and she knows the same about me. So
278 anytime we just need to get something off our chests or get help about something
279 we can always go to each other.
280
- 281 I: Yeah. That's important.
282
- 283 M2: Yeah.
284
- 285 I: Are there any disadvantages to having a cross-sex friend, er having "F2" as
286 your cross-sex friend?
287
- 288 M2: I don't see any.
289
- 290 I: Not that you see? (laugh)
291
- 292 M2: No (laugh)
293
- 294 I: Alright, when you and your partner argue, what kind of things do you
295 argue about?
296
- 297 M2: Actually, never, we never (.)
298
- 299 I: Never argue?
300
- 301 M2: Hm Mm
302
- 303 I: Never disagree? That's good.
304
- 305 M2: Possibly, (.) um (.) I consider disagreeing an argument. I know we've
306 definitely never argued. Like, just, we don't spite each other or anything, um (.)
307 disagree (pause) I don't think so. Nothing that comes to mind.
308
- 309 I: Um (.) do you see, uh, I know you said that she has a boyfriend, Um (.)
310 does this relationship change whenever, or do you see a change when one or both
311 of you are in a romantic relationship? (pause) or involved in that romantic.
312
- 313 M2: Like when he's around, yeah there's differences (.) which is expected I
314 guess.
315
- 316 I: What kind of differences are there?
317
- 318 M2: Well (.) more of her attention would go to him of course (.) it's just (.) it's
319 kinda like, well, anytime I'm with friends and their with their (.)
320
- 321 I: Significant other.
322

- 323 M2: Yeah, it's just like I feel kinda like the third wheel, kinda sort of thing.
324 Even if someone else is there, it's just always (.) there's always that thing there. So.
325 That's really the, it's not really (.) a problem.
326
327 I: So it's not a problem?
328
329 M2: No
330
331 I: So, uh, are you romantically involved or (.)
332
333 M2: No
334
335 I: No, okay. You don't have that issue then. (.) Do you ever feel like you put
336 more into the relationship than your partner does?
337
338 M2: Hm Mm.
339
340 I: Um, do you ever think she puts more into it than you?
341
342 M2: No, only because we're both so busy and we try to do things when we can
343 and
344
345 I: You both understand that?
346
347 M2: Yeah. So, we work it out.
348
349 I: Well, that's good. Um, do you ever feel that you expect more from the
350 relationship than what you get? (.) Do you ever wish you got something you don't
351 get?
352
353 M2: I guess (.) maybe (.) but not really (.) No (.) No
354
355 I: No?
356
357 M2: No, (.) no, no, no (laugh)
358
359 I: (laugh) Okay. Do you ever feel that your partner is expecting too much?
360 Out of either you or out of the friendship or anything?
361
362 M2: No, definitely not.
363
364 I: (pause) Okay. Um (.) These next few questions are about the future of the,
365 how you see the future. So, um, first where do you see your cross-sex friendship in
366 five years?
367
368 M2: Hopefully still talking somehow.

369 I: What about when you live in separate cities or states or something like
370 that? (.) Do you see (pause)

371

372 M2: It's hard to say cause I know any time that's happened it gradually falls out
373 of touch and I don't want that to happen but some things can't be controlled. So.

374

375 I: Yeah. So what kind of things do you see changing then if you guys were
376 living in separate states or cities?

377

378 M2: Well, we'd each have our own things going on and it gets harder and harder
379 to write or call. And things like that. Then visiting, of course, that would be a big
380 thing too.

381

382 I: What about when one or both of you get married? Do you think that's

383 []

384 M2: That won't be

385 any different. Naw, she's practically married to her boyfriend now. So, it's like

386 how it is now (laughs).

387

388 I: (laughs) Uh, what about if you guys have kids? If you have families and
389 stuff? Do you think your families will still be in contact?

390

391 M2: I would hope so, (.) ya know?

392

393 I: Well, that's about it. Thank you again.

Appendix G

3 Individual Interview with Female 2

4 Female 2 (21 minutes, 35 seconds)

5

6 I: First, I'd like to thank you so much for participating, I really, I really
 7 appreciate it. And I'd like to remind you that all of your answers are confidential.
 8 Um, your name will probably be changed for anonymity within the findings. Um,
 9 if you're uncomfortable answering any of the questions, just tell me and we'll move
 10 on to something else, that way, um, (.) I don't want you to feel uncomfortable or
 11 feel like you have to answer a question. If you don't that's fine. Um, (pause) Okay,
 12 how old are you?

13

14 F2: 19

15

16 I: These first few questions I have are just basically about, um, trying to get
 17 an idea of where your friendship is now. Like, with "M2". Trying to find out,
 18 what's going on. Um (.) how long have you and him been friends?

19

20 F2: Since September

21

22 I: Okay, and how would you describe your relationship with him to someone
 23 else? Like, another person who doesn't know either of you?

24

25 F2: Um, I'd say that we're really close and what's funny about our relationship
 26 is the first time I talked to him I felt like I knew him forever, like, he (.) Like we
 27 have one of those relationships where, like, it goes farther than just hanging out
 28 and stuff, like we really understand each other. That's probably how I'd explain it.

29

30 I: Um, on a scale of one to five with one being high and five being low,
 31 which would best describe your level of involvement in this relationship recently?

32

33 F2: Like, hanging out?

34

35 I: Um, just how involved have you been do you think in either hanging out,
 36 doing stuff, calling, whatever.

37

38 F2: Um (.) 3.

39

40 I: And how would you rate your partner? (.) How would you rate "M2"? On
 41 the same (.)

42

43 F2: Oh! Um (.) 3.

44

45 I: Okay, um (.) the next set of questions I have for you are kinda to take you
 46 back to the beginning of your friendship where you guys were just starting to

47 become friends. Um, some of the questions I may ask you may not have a
 48 definitive answer or something that you know "Ah, Yes! It was this very moment."
 49 And the light bulb went on, but you know, give me an approximate answer to the
 50 best you can. Or it may not even apply to your relationship and if that's the case
 51 just tell me, never, never applies, or (.) um, and just respond to the best of your
 52 memory that you can. Um (.) so beginning, when was the first time you remember
 53 meeting your partner?

54

55 F2: Um (.) well it started through Spanish class and we had the same Spanish
 56 class together (.) and he was just one of those (.) people you walk into class and (.)
 57 he's just always smiling so you know, (.) he smiled back and pretty soon we started
 58 talking, and then, um, (.) I really started talking to him when I was eating lunch in
 59 Taylor and he walked in and didn't have anyone to eat with so he said, "Hey, can I
 60 sit down?" And (.) he went to school with my boyfriend Joe (.) high school, high
 61 school. And so, they were like, "Awww!" ya know. Belleville, that's where they
 62 went and then that's when I got him to join the speech team and so we really
 63 started talking then at lunch, but in Spanish class before then we'd just smile.

64

65 I: Um (.) were you initially at all physically attracted to him?

66

67 F2: Naw, No.

68

69 I: Do you think he was physically attracted to you?

70

71 F2: No (laughs).

72

73 I: (laughs) Did you talk with him on the first day of Spanish class or how
 74 soon did you, into the class, did you actually talk?

75

76 F2: Um (.) saying hi or really talking?

77

78 I: Saying hi, talking casually (.) whatever

79

80 F2: Um (.)

81

82 I: Learning each other's names.

83

84 F2: Um (.) actually it wasn't until after we saw each other at lunch. Yeah, cause
 85 that was just a couple of weeks into that class. But (.) after that we'd say hi and
 86 start talking.

87

88 I: Okay (.) what kind of things do you remember talking to him about, the
 89 first, the first time you guys started talking? What do you remember talking about?

90

91 F2: Um (.)

92

93 I: Like, at the lunch you were just talking about.

94

95 F2: We (pause) we talked about the speech team a lot because I tried to get him
96 for like a half an hour to join and (.) cause he would just talk, and he's (.) one of
97 the smartest kids I know. And just, like, his presence about him, um, and the way
98 he spoke, I told him that he'd be awesome for the speech team in like public
99 address events and stuff like that. I can totally see him doing it. And then he got
100 interested, and then he was like, "I was thinkin' about that in high school and then
101 saw some signs for it this year." And mostly we talked about the speech team, (.)
102 yeah.

103

104 I: Okay. So being that you guys were in Spanish class together, you pretty
105 much saw him on a regular basis?

106

107 F2: Mm Hm

108

109 I: How many times a week?

110

111 F2: Um (.) like, five times a week.

112

113 I: Five times a week?

114

115 F2: Yeah.

116

117 I: And aside from that very first encounter where you guys talked about the
118 speech team. The first couple of weeks of your friendship, what other kinds of
119 things did you guys talk about besides speech team?

120

121 F2: Um (pause) We talked a lot about movies and books. Cause I remember he
122 was one of the first people who I ever had, like, really intelligent conversations
123 with about like, movies and books and I was like, "I don't sit around and talk about
124 books with my friends." But he (.) him and I totally could. And it was awesome so
125 (.) I remember (.) like, thinking (.) "This guy's awesome." I could totally talk to
126 him about, like this kind of stuff. And I can't do this with Joe, ya know, my
127 boyfriend. So (.) I thought it was really cool about that, but yeah, besides speech
128 team, books and movies, people and relationships. Yeah.

129

130 I: What was your impression of him in these first couple of encounters, the
131 first couple of times you hung out? What'd you think of him?

132

133 F2: Um (.) I thought he was really really smart, that's probably the first thing I
134 thought, um (.) um just about his personality?

135

136 I: Just about anything. First impression of him or

137

138 F2: Um (.) I thought he was really friendly and soft-spoken, um, I thought he
139 was really (.) intelligent (.) and um (.) yeah.

140

141 I: What do you think his impression of you was?

142

143 F2: (pause) I think he probably thought I was a spaz cause the first time at
144 lunch (laughs) I just got so excited to hear that he went to school with my
145 boyfriend, like, he was interested in joining the speech team so I got all excited
146 and when I get excited it's pretty funny cause it just is and I, (.) he probably
147 thought (.) I was (.) he was like, "Whoa! Calm!" Probably. (laugh) cause I
148 remember him being like, "Whoa, let me catch up with you here." I do remember
149 him being like that, but I think he thought it was fun.

150

151 I: Yeah.

152

153 F2: Ya know? So it was just (.)

154

155 I: Did you ever think you had much in common with him whenever you, like
156 you said this is the first person you could talk to about like movies and books and
157 stuff. Um, did you think you guys had a whole lot in common just talking to him
158 the first few times?

159

160 F2: Uh (.) yeah, I think so.

161

162 I: What kind of things did you see other than the movies and books that you
163 guys had in common?

164

165 F2: Um (.) I mean even though we didn't have, like, the same lifestyles or
166 anything like that, or maybe not always the same interests, like we think the same
167 way a lot (.) um (.) ya know what I mean? You may not always be exactly the
168 same as far as what we like, but just the way we thought (.) I don't know, we'd
169 always have the same opinions.

170

171 I: When was the first time you remember sharing something personal with
172 him?

173

174 F2: (pause) um (pause) uh (.) I don't remember.

175

176 I: Like, how far into the friendship were you?

177

178 F2: Probably (pause) after like a month and a half. Yeah.

179

180 I: And when was the first time he shared something personal with you?

181

182 F2: (pause) Probably after like two months.

183

- 184 I: (pause) At what point in the friendship or in this whole time did you feel
185 that you two had finally established a sense of trust with each other?
186
- 187 F2: Um (.) probably after just the first two weeks.
188
- 189 I: The first two weeks?
190
- 191 F2: Yeah, it was really fast.
192
- 193 I: And what made you, what was it about him that made you feel like you
194 could trust him?
195
- 196 F2: Um (.) I think I have a really (laughs) this is kinda weird but I think I have
197 a really good sense of how (.) I'm a really good judge of character as far as, like,
198 trusting people. And, I don't know (.) I can, like, automatically see, like, a look in
199 their eye (.) like after the first time I talk to them I can tell, like, not if they're a
200 good person or a bad person, but just like (.) if (.) if I can talk to them and if I
201 know that they're not gonna tell anyone and just the way that they talk to me, ya
202 know? So, just how (.) just he's such a great listener that um (.) he's such a good
203 listener (laughs), but it just made me automatically feel completely comfortable, ya
204 know, and then I could tell him (.)
205
- 206 I: (pause) Have you two ever talked about potential sexual or romantic
207 feelings toward one another? Have you guys ever joked or even, um talked about
208 what other people have said or anything like that? That type, er relating to
209 romantic or involvement of any kind?
210
- 211 F2: Um (.) yeah.
212
- 213 I: You have?
214
- 215 F2: Yeah.
216
- 217 I: Like joking? Or how was that?
218
- 219 F2: Jokingly, like if I would be like (.) cause he's gay.
220
- 221 I: Oh, okay.
222
- 223 F2: I'd be like, "That guy was checking you out." Like, that kind of stuff? Is
224 that what you mean?
225
- 226 I: Well, I'm just thinking any kind of romantic between you two?
227
- 228 F2: Between us two? No!
229

230 I: (pause) No.

231

232 F2: No.

233

234 I: Okay. How often do you guys, like moving up till now, how often do you
235 guys interact now?

236

237 F2: Um (.) maybe like once a week.

238

239 I: Okay (pause) what kind of activities do you guys do together now?

240

241 F2: Go get dinner, a lot. Actually, like twice a week () um (.) on the
242 weekends um, sometimes (.) he likes going to stuff campus has to offer. Other (.)
243 you know, my roommate may not necessarily like that kind of stuff. Like, we
244 might go to, like, the Rathskeller and see a band or comedian or like go watch a
245 movie in Buzzard or something and other people are like, "Let's go party!" So,
246 like, we hang out and do that kind of stuff whenever (.) campus offers it. But, (.)
247 usually just (.) go get dinner and go hang out on a weekend.

248

249 I: And what kind of things do you talk about now with him?

250

251 F2: Now?

252

253 I: Yeah, now that you guys are better friends, what kind of things, what kind
254 of topics do you talk about?

255

256 F2: Um (pause) I talk about my relationship with my boyfriend (.) and he talks
257 about (.) guys that he has his eye on (.) um (.) Talk about other people. Um (.) we
258 still talk about, like, books and stuff. Um (pause) not really classes, um (.)
259 sometimes the Internet, like if we see a cool website or something um (.) But
260 mostly I'd say people, I guess. (.) Yeah.

261

262 I: Are there any topics you would not talk about with him? Anything you
263 wouldn't say?

264

265 F2: No, well, I've also talked about sexual stuff with him.

266

267 I: Uh huh.

268

269 F2: So, like, to me (.) like that's (.) like pretty far, ya know? So like, I (.) I
270 really feel like I can tell him anything like, I wouldn't hold anything back.

271

272 I: Do you feel like this friendship is different from your same-sex
273 friendships? If so, how? Like, are they, (.) how is it different?

274

275 F2: Um (.) well first of all, I get along better with guys than girls. Yeah
 276 (laughs). I mean, I do have some friends who are girls, but I don't get along, like,
 277 you know what I'm saying? I just feel like girls can be really petty and
 278 backstabbing (laugh) you're like "I hear ya!" But, um, and it really bothers me and
 279 I know, it's silly, because sometimes I do that. Sometimes I'm petty and ya know, I
 280 could turn around and talk about someone, ya know, but it's just different (laugh)
 281 ya know, and um (.) with him, he just like, lays it out on the table, ya know what I
 282 mean? I think most guys do (.) and (.) it, it's just different.

283

284 I: Is this friendship different from your other cross-sex friendships that you
 285 have? Or is it pretty similar to other cross-sex friends?

286

287 F2: Um (.) no it's different. I think he's (.) well he is a lot more open-minded
 288 than some other guys. Uh (.) a lot more open-minded about things we talk about,
 289 ya know? Just thoughts, ya know? Um (.) yeah.

290

291 I: Are there any, are there benefits to this friendship that you've found?

292

293 F2: Yeah (.) um (.) whenever I do have a problem, he's (.) like the first or
 294 second person I think about going to. So, like he's definitely someone that I can
 295 confide in. Um (.) which is a big stress reliever to know that, yeah, he's there. Um
 296 (.) what was the question?

297

298 I: Benefits.

299

300 F2: Benefits. Um (.) so it's a stress reliever to know that I have a friend I can
 301 talk to like that or who'll listen. Um (.) benefits, uh (.) he's just fun to be with all
 302 around (.) just we could be, like, sitting in a sewer and we'd have fun (laughs)

303

304 I: (laughs)

305

306 F2: Maybe not a sewer, but we definitely make a joke about it or something, ya
 307 know? He's just one of those people who like, ya know, is always having a good
 308 time.

309

310 I: Are there disadvantages to this friendship?

311

312 F2: Um (pause) no.

313

314 I: Okay, when you and he argue, what kind of things do you argue about? Or
 315 disagree about? Some people think of argue as yelling argue. I mean, argue,
 316 disagree.

317

318 F2: Uh (.) we've never really gotten to, like, anywhere near, like, a heated
 319 argument or whatever (.) but like, if we were to disagree about something it would
 320 be jokingly, ya know, we wouldn't take it seriously, buy maybe (.) like (.) he'd be

321 like "Aw that guy's so cute!" and I'd be like "huh uh!" or something like that or (.)
 322 like about a book. Like he'll say "Aw, this book was really good. Did you read
 323 this?" and I'd be like, "Yeah, but I didn't really like it." I'm not the type of person
 324 to be like "No! That was stupid! What do you think!" But, I'll be like, "I really
 325 didn't like it" or ya know. Um (.) or like a movie or something so (.) that's a big
 326 role (.) is like how (.) I um (.) how I say things. (.) I'm not all defensive about it, ya
 327 know? I'm kinda just like, "That didn't work for me." So.

328

329 I: I know that you have a boyfriend and had a boyfriend from the very
 330 beginning of this friendship (.) so do you see that it (.) the relationship is different
 331 because of that or like whenever the three of you are together, how is it, the
 332 relationship changed at that time?

333

334 F2: Um (.) it hasn't at all, like, me and Joe are pretty open about um (.) when
 335 we feel jealous. Cause, like, the other person can totally tell, they get all quiet or
 336 something (.) and like (.) I, maybe it's because he's gay and like he doesn't, ya
 337 know?

338

339 I: See him as a threat?

340

341 F2: Yeah! Um (.) Uh (.) Plus he knew him from high school and stuff. No. Our
 342 relationship doesn't change at all.

343

344 I: Are there any problems with, like, as far as, are there any problems with
 345 your romantic relationship because of your friendship ever? (pause) like, I guess
 346 what I mean is, (.) kinda to the idea of, "Well, you told him but you didn't tell me."
 347 Type of thing.

348

349 F2: Oh! Uh (.) no.

350

351 I: No, okay. Do you ever feel like you put more into the relationship than
 352 your partner?

353

354 F2: (pause) Uh (.) No I think we're pretty much the same. Yeah.

355

356 I: Do you ever feel like you expect more from the relationship than you're
 357 actually getting?

358

359 F2: (pause) It almost sounds like I should because we're so close, but I talk to
 360 him, like, once or twice a week, but like those times that we do talk are great!
 361 Then I don't mind not, plus I know he's right here. It's not like he lives far away, I
 362 can just walk over to his place. So (.) No, I don't.

363

364 I: Do you ever feel like he's expecting too much from you?

365

366 F2: No.

367

368 I: Looking to the future (.) of your friendship where do you see your cross-
369 sex friendship in say five years?

370

371 F2: (pause) (laugh) I don't know, um (.) I think (.) I don't know (.) I think we'll
372 still be talking, well I mean, I don't know. It all depends on where we are, ya
373 know. I hope (.) I want to think I'll still be talking to him, ya know. If we live close
374 by, hanging out, ya know, having a good time and stuff. (.) I think in the next years
375 that we'll be here, he's a freshman and I'm a sophomore, that we'll go through those
376 hard times together. But (.) whatever (.) when graduation's giving us a hard time (.)
377 So.

378

379 I: So what about when one or both of you live in separate cities or states?

380

381 F2: I think he'll be one of those friends that (laugh) I think he'll be one of those
382 friends that I'll talk to, like, once every couple weeks or once a month, but when
383 we do talk, we'll be on the phone for hours, ya know? Like, we don't talk very
384 often, but when we do talk it's definitely high quality, ya know?

385

386 I: What about when one or both of you get married? Or have kids?

387

388 F2: (laugh) Um (.) I think we'll still talk. Yeah.

389

390 I: Well, those are all my questions for you. Thank you!

391

392 F2: No problem.

Appendix H

1

2

3 Joint Interview with Dyad 2

4 Dyad 2 (22 minutes, 31 seconds)

5

6 I: Once again (.) thank you so much! I promise this'll be the last time I need
 7 to, uh, meet with you guys (.) so you'll be free of me after this (laugh). Um, so,
 8 um, basically from this study of cross-sex friendships (.) I'm hoping to get several
 9 different dyads (.) and try and study the development of these friendships. How
 10 exactly (.) are they (.) do you people come together and form a friendship? And
 11 continue that friendship? So, I hope to contribute to the understanding of cross-sex
 12 friendship by doing this study. So, Um (.) first I'd like to start by asking if you two
 13 have seen each other or talked since the individual interviews?

14

15 F2: Mm Hmm

16

17 I: Have you guys talked about anything that we talked about in our
 18 interviews?

19

20 M2: I don't think so.

21

22 I: Okay. That's fine.

23

24 M2: Maybe briefly but (.)

25

26 F2: Oh! (.) No.

27

28 M2: (laugh)

29

30 F2: I misunderstood the question (laugh). Concentrating on this brownie, man.
 31 (laugh) Have we talked about anything that we talked about individually in the
 32 interviews?

33

34 I: Yeah

35 []

36 F2: Is that what you're saying?

37

38 I: Yeah

39

40 F2: No.

41

42 M2: I think it was just, like, (.) "Did you go to the interview?" "Yeah" "Okay."

43

44 I: Alright! Good! Great, well what I want you to do in this one is, together (.)
 45 I want you two to tell me the story of how you two became friends. Okay? So
 46 together, I want you to tell me the story and whoever wants to start, go ahead. If

47 the other one has something to add to it (.) or um (.) contribute by all means just
 48 jump right in and if I have any questions, I'll probably jump in and ask as we go.
 49 So, (.) whoever wants to begin. Tell me how you guys became friends.

50

51 M2: (pause) I'll go. Um (.) we were in Spanish class, and if I get this wrong,
 52 you've gotta correct me (.) but I think I know. (.) Um and it was what the second

53 F2: [Mm kay]

54 week of class maybe? It was early. Second or so, and I was (laugh) wearing a shirt
 55 that said Belleville East.

56 []

57 F2: Probably Oh my God! Yeah! I completely forgot about that.

58 [] []

59 M2: See See Well
 60 there we go. And so, (.) she was like, "Are you from Belleville?" and I was like (laugh)

61 []

62 F2: (laugh) cause that's

63 how I sound.

64

65 M2: Yeah, yeah, that's how girls sound. And I was like, "Yeah." She's "Oh my
 66 god! So's my boyfriend." (laugh) and I was like, "Oh yeah? Who's that?" No!
 67 Wait! This happened the day after that (laughing) cause she asked me that and then
 68 the professor was like, "Okay, shut up." Ya know, like to the whole class (.) So
 69 then like (.) yeah, class was over and it was like (.) I don't know, ya know, like,
 70 who's that girl? And then the next day she was like, "Oh yeah, I meant to say, my
 71 boyfriend is from Belleville." And I was like, "Who's that?" And she's like, "Joe
 72 'R'." And I'm like, "Oh." (laugh) That's how we met.

73

74 I: Okay (.) um (.) but how'd you guys become friends after that?

75

76 F2: Then that's when we started, like, saying hi to each other in class. (.)
 77 Cause, ya know, we knew faces, as opposed to, like, other times, where you just
 78 walk into class (.) and (.) kinda (.) not ignore everyone else, but kinda "I'm in
 79 class" type of thing. But, ya know (.) we said hi to each other (.) and then (.) I saw
 80 you (.) I was eating lunch in Taylor and then you walked in (.) and then, you were
 81 like, "Can I sit down here?" And I'm like, "Sure" and I don't remember if Joe was
 82 with us or not.

83

84 M2: He was, but then he had to leave.

85 []

86 F2: Was he? But he left, yeah, that's right. (laugh)

87 Sorry.

88

89 I: No, that's okay!

90

91 F2: Um (.) so (.) he walked in (.) sat down, blah, blah, blah and (.) we just
 92 started talking and I made a comment about how (.) I thought you would be good
 93 on the speech team (.) and you were like, "Really?" and I think you had,

94 something like, you were thinking about it in high school but never got involved or
95 something.

96

97 M2: Mm Hmm

98

99 F2: And I was like, "Oh my God! You so should!" And I remember being like,
100 so (.) excited. Like, I probably freaked you out I was so excited (.) cause (.) you
101 know how I get when I get excited.

102

103 M2: Right.

104

105 F2: And um (.) so I was just so excited because (.) I get excited when anyone's
106 excited about the speech team. (.) so (.) um (.) Then we started talking about that
107 and (.) just (.) um () And (.) uh (.) yeah so ever since then (.) he came to the
108 meeting afterwards and then (.) that's when we became close. We started seeing
109 more of each other cause we saw each other outside of class (.) and (.) met for
110 meals (.)

111

112 I: How long'd you guys talk for that first time?

113

114 M2: We talked for a while, like (.) more than an hour.

115

116 F2: [] []
Yeah Yeah, cause I remember,
117 cause like an hour passed and I remember looking at the clock and being like,
118 "Oh!"

119

120 M2: Yeah.

121

122 F2: But I didn't mind it at all (.) it was like, "This is cool." So, like, (.) maybe
123 an hour and 15 minutes or an hour and a half.

124

125 I: You both kinda mentioned whenever I was talking with you that you kinda
126 felt like (.) when you first started talking (.) Almost knew each other from (.) or
127 were so comfortable with each other. Um (.) could you tell me a little bit about
128 that? About, like, how you guys got that impression?

129

130 F2: Um (.) (laugh) I'll talk to you directly (.) Um (.) No! But um (.) the first
131 time (laugh) like (.) M2 (.) That the first time I met you, like, and like talked to

132 M2: [(laugh)]

133 you, like, I think I may (.) remember telling you that, like, we may have different
134 interests and stuff, like hobbies or like, whatever, beliefs (.) but, like we think the

135 M2: [Uh Huh]

136 same (.) and like, (.) (laugh) it's so funny. We think, like, automatically the same
137 (.) () um (.) No, but like, as soon as I talked to you, I was like, "This guy
138 is cool. I can talk to him, he's like, really understanding and (.)" You care about
139 people and that's what I liked. Because you really (.) just (.) I don't know (.) you

140 cared about people, you cared about things. (.) And it seemed like you were very,
 141 very open-minded (.) and like, (.) I'm attracted to that kind of people who are (.)
 142 can just (.) are, ya know, (.) are super friendly. And stuff like that. And I thought
 143 that was really cool and right away I felt we connected. (.) I mean, we started off a
 144 conversation (.) and like, an hour and a half, ya know (.) I thought that was kinda.
 145 (.) So.

146

147 M2: (laugh) Um (.) Did you want me to respond?

148

149 I: Sure.

150

151 M2: I was, like, kinda (.) cause I am or was I guess, very shy (.) like with new
 152 people. So I decided when I came to college I would stop that, ya know? So, like,
 153 the summer before I totally worked on that and (.) then this was like, a really good
 154 opportunity so I was like, "Okay, girl I don't know. Let's talk." And so, (.) that's
 155 what happened. It was just like, (.) just like (.) not being so (.) closed up (.) ya
 156 know? Be whatever and (.)

157

158 I: Just talk?

159

160 M2: Yeah.

161

162 I: So, okay, So you guys were pretty comfortable around each other right
 163 away.

164

165 M2: Mm Hmm

166

167 I: Alright (.) Um (.) You said (.) you both said that now (.) a lot of times you
 168 do things together. What kind of things do you do together?

169

170 M2: Eat (laugh).

171

172 F2: I was gonna say that! We eat a lot (laugh).

173

174 I: Like, how often do you guys get together?

175

176 M2: Um (.) at least four or five times a week? Ya think? (.) Maybe? (.) Well, it

177 F2: [Yeah.]

178 used to be that way, lately it's been a lot more busyness.

179

180 F2: Yeah.

181

182 M2: so it's hard to say on average, I don't know.

183

184 F2: Maybe we see each other, like, once a weekend.

185

- 186 M2: Yeah.
187
- 188 F2: And, maybe like (.)
189
- 190 M2: A couple times in the week.
191
- 192 F2: Mmm, you see Charity a lot more than I do (.) um (.) I don't know. (.) Um
193 (.) we do (.) that's so funny (.) like, all we do is eat.
194
- 195 M2: (laugh)
196
- 197 F2: We don't do anything.
198 []
- 199 M2: We saw a movie.
200
- 201 F2: We saw a movie.
202
- 203 M2: Friday. (laugh)
204
- 205 F2: Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.
206
- 207 M2: Good movie.
208
- 209 F2: They were showing it in Buzzard.
210
- 211 I: Really?
212
- 213 M2: For free.
214 []
- 215 F2: I was like, "Oooo" (.) It was nice. (.) But um, (.) anyway (laugh) we (.) ya
216 know what is really cool about M2 is that, um (.) you like to go (laugh) like to go
217 to stuff that campus offers, ya know (.) and like, (.) most other people are like, (.)
218 all about partying or something like that. (.) And, like, (.) it's just cool to see
219 someone who'd like (.) love to go see a comedian in the Rathskeller Friday night
220 or something like that instead of go drinking (laugh) we don't always have to do
221 that because (.) Yeah! Which is cool because last semester I was really (.) I
222 remember looking for a friend that I could (.) who I could hang out with, who
223 didn't center their life around drinking cause that just go old, like (.) after seeing
224 that last year a lot and so it was really cool that I could just (.) do anything and
225 we'd still have fun. So (.)
226
- 227 I: So is that one of the things you guys (.) enjoyed about each other last year
228 is that you guys can get together and not have to go and do anything?
229
- 230 F2: Mm Hmm
231

232 M2: Yeah.

233

234 I: So, what'd you do instead? Like you said everybody else goes out and
235 stuff, what'd you guys do instead?

236

237 F2: Um.

238 []

239 M2: Well, (.) a couple weekends we had our bonding nights that I had
240 mentioned (.) we uh (.) saw the play (.) and then we (.) snuck into the orchestra,
241 symphony, what, what, Opera!

242

243 F2: Mm Hmm

244

245 M2: Whatever that word is (.) and then we went to McDonald's (.) and (.) then
246 back to my room (.) we just, like, talked for (.) quite a while. (.)

247

248 F2: Yeah.

249

250 M2: We'd do head massages. We do that too. (laugh)

251

252 F2: (laugh) Head massages.

253

254 I: Oh, okay.

255

256 F2: And (.) it's just, it's (.) Anyway (laugh)

257

258 I: Okay. That's cool.

259

260 F2: It's just a calming thing that we do.

261

262 M2: Yeah.

263

264 F2: Friendship while we're talking.

265 []

266 M2: Very Relaxing.

267

268 F2: Anyway.

269

270 I: Well that's good.

271

272 F2: Um (.) No but (.) um (.) we can (.) uh (.) just hang out in each other's
273 rooms and talk (.) Mmm (.) play board games when they're available (laugh) um
274 (.) go on the computer or just watch TV or just (.) like, anything (.) like, anything
275 at all, like (.) we'll be talking and all of a sudden I feel like dancing so I'll get up,
276 turn on Napster, and we'll start dancing. We'll have a dance party.

277

- 278 M2: (laugh)
279
- 280 F2: Really weird, but that's how we are.
281
- 282 I: That's alright. At least you're comfortable.
283
- 284 F2: So, Yeah.
285
- 286 I: So when did you guys realize or kinda start thinking about it in terms of
287 "Hey, we're kinda friends now?" Or, ya know?
288
- 289 F2: (pause) For me (.) probably like (.) like uh (.) 2 or 3 weeks after we had
290 that talk at lunch. (.) Um, (pause) which would probably be around November or
291 so, well (.)
292
- 293 M2: When was our first trip? Did you go to Ball State?
294
- 295 F2: Mm Hmm
296
- 297 M2: Yes you did.
298
- 299 F2: Did you?
300
- 301 M2: Yes (.) cause that was when Jenny was all () (laugh) that's all I
302 remember.
303
- 304 F2: Um (.)
305
- 306 M2: That was (.) late October.
307
- 308 F2: Yeah (.) Like at the end of October, so (.) I mean for me it was just a
309 couple weeks after that conversation cause we started hanging out more and seeing
310 each other more.
311
- 312 I: Um (.) What else do you guys have as far as your friendship (.) that you
313 can tell me about?
314
- 315 F2: (.) Um (.) Just random talking?
316
- 317 I: Sure.
318
- 319 F2: Um (pause)
320
- 321 M2: We can pretty much be open about anything. And that's what we did ()
322 (laugh) and just any other place, like.

- 323 F2: [(laugh)] Um yeah (.) I think I told you last time,
 324 like, (.) we've, I think we've covered every topic pretty much.
 325
- 326 M2: Just about.
 327
- 328 F2: Just about? (.)
 329
- 330 M2: There is some we haven't (.)
 331
- 332 F2: Okay.
 333
- 334 M2: We haven't talked about religion like we said we were going to.
 335
- 336 F2: Yeah. Yeah, Yeah. I want to talk to you about that. (.) But um (.) well for
 337 the most part (.) at least, I feel I can talk to him about anything, like. (.) Any thing
 338 in the book (.) and um (.) and I've never been like, I've told him some stuff that I
 339 never told anyone before (.) and I don't think I'd want to tell anyone (.) else (.) but
 340 like, that's how I feel. Like, we're connected and like, he understands me (.) I'm
 341 just like, so comfortable with him.
 342
- 343 I: Yeah (.) well, that's good then. I mean, that's what friends are for.
 344
- 345 F2: Um (pause)
 346
- 347 M2: Even like (.) I totally forgot (.) remember when we had dinner at
 348 Pemberton and we talked about *American Beauty* that one time?
 349
- 350 F2: Uh huh?
 351
- 352 M2: You know, we can just like analyze moves or books or whatever. (.) That's
 353 something important cause it's not (.) it's not, like, personal issues but it's (.) it's
 354 an intellectual conversation. I don't have that with many people. (laugh)
 355
- 356 F2: Yeah, exactly. I (.) yeah (.) like, if something (.) (laugh) I can kinda have
 357 an intellectual conversation with Joe but it lasts like 30 seconds (.) and (laugh) I'm
 358 not like (.) he just doesn't have that attention span, but (.) like (.) I can just talk to
 359 him (.) like share my thoughts and my views about anything and he's so not
 360 judgmental. It's another thing I love is like (.) just he's so open and non-
 361 judgmental and just (.) M2's good people.
 362
- 363 I: (laugh)
 364
- 365 F2: (laugh)
 366
- 367 I: Okay.
 368

- 369 F2: I don't know what else to say.
370
- 371 I: Okay. Is there anything else you want, (.) I'm just asking for your story.
372
- 373 F2: Um (.) Do you want us to tell any personal stories between us?
374
- 375 I: Um (.) It's really, it's really, uh, free reign. You guys can tell me (.)
376
- 377 F2: Um (.) for spring break he came up to see uh (.) me, him, and my
378 roommate Charity are really close.
379
- 380 I: Where do you live?
381
- 382 F2: In Chicago.
383
- 384 I: Okay.
385
- 386 F2: And he's from the St. Louis area.
387
- 388 I: Yeah.
389
- 390 F2: And um, (.) well, I mean, it was really cool that he cared enough to spend,
391 cause it was her birthday over spring break. That he cared enough to come up and
392 spend it with us, ya know. We spent a whole day, we saw museums and just (.) all
393 kinds of stuff. We went out dancing one night. (laugh) It was just, (laugh) it was
394 just cool to have, like, someone take that big of an initiative and I know it may not
395 be that big of a deal, like, when you think about it (.) But like, I think it's really
396 cool. (.) I think it shows that you really care about someone if you're gonna travel
397 across the state, I mean, I'm not saying necessarily me, but like people in general.
398 (.) You (.) you just try to make people happy and just, like (.) your friends. You
399 really care about your friends and that's really cool. Um (.)
400
- 401 I: Do you think that (.) that (.) um (.) that particular characteristic is unique in
402 your cross-sex friendship? Do you (.) do you have other cross-sex friends that
403 would do that do you think?
404
- 405 F2: (pause) I don't think so. (laugh)
406
- 407 M2: I don't know.
408
- 409 F2: Um (.) Unless it was Joe but that's kinda cause that's romantic.
410
- 411 M2: Right.
412
- 413 F2: Um (.) No (.) I don't (.) No, I don't.
414

415 I: That's cool.

416

417 F2: I mean, I don't (.) I don't wanna sound like a loser here, but (laugh) ya
 418 know, but for real (.) I would rather have, like, few close friends to a whole lot of
 419 friends. That's what I was gonna say. I don't have a lot of friends and I know that
 420 sounds kinda funny but I don't (.) I don't have a lot of (.) I have a lot of
 421 acquaintances but that's different, ya know. So, I don't have a lot of friends but I
 422 have a lot of close friends. (.) Like, M2 who I can depend on (.) and who'll do
 423 stuff like that for other people, like, come up and spend a weekend for like, a
 424 friend's birthday and ya know, have fun and be a part of that. (.) Um (.) I think
 425 that's more important than just having a bunch of friends, ya know. (.) Just having
 426 someone you can depend on and who'll understand. So.

427

428 I: Great. Got anything to add?

429

430 M2: I do (.) (laugh) She's been saying all these things about me and I have to

431 F2: [(laugh)]

432 I: [(laugh)]

433 say (.) that I love my F2 (.) because (.) and I told her this too. (.) That she listens to
 434 me, like (.) not many people do, or I get the feeling, ya know. Like, just today, (.)
 435 with Charity, not to mention names, it's not like it's exclusive to people but just
 436 today, like, I wanted to tell a story and then she started telling a story (.) and then I
 437 didn't get to tell mine and that just happens to me a lot, ya know? But, not with her
 438 (.) she always listens to me and she does that with everybody. It's not just, like, a
 439 me thing. And I think that is key were she's not always interrupting and just
 440 always open to listen to what other people say and really listens not just "Yeah.
 441 Uh, huh." Ya know? And really digests everything and is able to respond. I think
 442 that's very important.

443

444 F2: Thanks.

445

446 I: (laugh)

447

448 F2: (laugh)

449

450 I: Everyone's getting all the warm fuzzies.

451

452 F2: Um (.) I'm sorry. (.) Actually, um (.) do you mind if I say about the e-mail
 453 you wrote me?

454

455 M2: No. (.) Go. (.) No, I don't mind.

456 []

457 F2: Okay Um (.) well (.) um (.) That is something I,
 458 like, feel mutually about, like, he can do the same thing for me. And sometimes I
 459 feel, like (.) like, Ugh! (.) Last semester I was just really (.) I was just really,
 460 finding someone to listen to me, ya know? Cause, I mean, sometimes there's just

461 stuff you don't want to tell your boyfriend, ya know? And my roommate was
 462 never there. She was just having problems. (.) And I really didn't have a close
 463 friend, like besides Joe, which is funny because (.) it's like (.) Joe, ya know?
 464 (laugh) I don't know, so I was just really looking for someone (.) to just be close
 465 that I can just tell things to (.) And then I talked to him and found out the same
 466 thing that he just said to me. And um (.) he wrote me this e-mail, (.) Ohh it made
 467 me cry (.) um, maybe like, in January or February (.) and did you write it from
 468 home or?

469

470 M2: Which one is this?

471

472 I: (laugh)

473

474 F2: The one where you were telling your sister about this

475

476 M2: Oh now I remember. (.) That was (.) I thought that was, like, last month (.)
 477 or maybe February. I don't know.

478

479 F2: Really?

480

481 M2: It wasn't January. I know that (.) but (.) I don't know when it was.

482

483 F2: Okay (.) Some time this semester.

484

485 M2: Yeah.

486

487 F2: Um (.) he wrote this e-mail (.) he said um (.) he started off with um (.) he
 488 was just home the past weekend and he was trying to tell his sisters this story
 489 about this um (.) uh (.)

490

491 M2: Speech piece.

492

493 F2: Yeah, speech piece that he say that was really cool and he wanted to tell
 494 them about. So he started telling his story and they interrupted him, ya know. And,
 495 like, people don't really think about that, ya know. (.) Ugh (.) I think there's such a
 496 difference between, like intensive listening and like giving feedback, like non-
 497 verbal feedback and just being like, "Uh huh, uh huh." Ya know? Cause I think
 498 that's so annoying and I think, um, I give that to other people because I don't feel
 499 that many people give that to me, so. (.) And I think that's so important because (.)
 500 at least for me because when people don't listen (.) I can tell (.) and (.) it just, it
 501 makes me feel like I'm not wanted. Like I'm not wanted, ya know? Like I'm a
 502 burden on them, like they have to listen to me, ya know? But with him (.) he's just
 503 so (.) (HHH) and (.) anyways, so he wrote me this e-mail and then after the story
 504 he continued to tell me that "I just want to let you know that," um, (.) "you always
 505 listen to me." And pretty much what he just said (.) but um (.) "You always listen

506 M2: [(laugh)]

- 507 to me and you've always been there for me and you're not just a listener, you're an
508 understander." So, (.) is that a word, understander? (.) Um (.) and just "you really
509 know how to listen, not just" ya know, "hear." Yeah! So and I thought that (.) that
510 I: [Hear]
511 e-mail really touched me because, just to hear that, ya know? What I try to give is
512 actually working, ya know and is actually coming through to other people. That
513 was awesome. So (.) that was that little ditty there. (pause) Um (.) ()
514
515 I: How do you guys see your friendship now? Do you see it as really, really
516 strong (.) or do you see it as there's still a lot stronger that it could be?
517
518 M2: Oh it could always get stronger.
519
520 F2: I was gonna say that.
521
522 M2: Yeah.
523
524 F2: Yeah, I (.) I think it'll continue growing, I mean it's not at it's peak right
525 now.
526
527 M2: Yeah, it could still develop. Like, as good as it is, (.) it's still early, ya
528 know?
529
530 I: Yeah. Okay (.) Great (.) Thanks.
531
532 M2: You're welcome. Thank you for the brownies.
533
534 F2: Yes, thank you for the brownies!
535
536 I: Oh, no problem!

Appendix I

3 Individual Interview with Male 3

4 Male 3 (18 minutes, 27 seconds)

5

6 This had to be transcribed off the videotape. There are some sections that
7 are inaudible because of this.

8

9 I: Alright (pause) first I'd like to start by saying thank you so much for
10 participating. Um (.) and I'd like to remind you that all of your answers are
11 confidential. Um (.) and your name will be changed within the findings. That way
12 (.) the only person who'll match the answers with you is me. If you're
13 uncomfortable answering any of the questions just say so and we'll move on to
14 something else. Um (pause). Alright, and how old are you?

15

16 M3: I'm 20.

17

18 I: Okay (pause) and how long have you and your partner been friends?

19

20 M3: Um (.) well, it's May of my sophomore year and since like, September or
21 October of my freshman year. (.) So, a year and a half. Maybe a little more.

22

23 I: Mm kay (.) Alright, um (.) and how would you describe your relationship
24 to an outside viewer, like, someone who doesn't know either of you?

25

26 M3: An outside viewer, (.) it's really weird cause people see us as being
27 boyfriend and girlfriend and very far from the truth. Um (.) even our parents
28 assume we're going out when in fact we're not. Um (.) I just see it as, it's not like
29 hanging with another guy, but I just see it as another friend that I can talk to and
30 whatnot.

31

32 I: Mm kay, so you would say she's a close friend, she's a

33

[]

34 M3:

Oh! She's my best friend.

35

36 I: Your best friend. (.) Okay. (.) And um (.) okay on a scale of one to five
37 with one being high and five being low, which would best describe your level of
38 involvement in the relationship recently?

39

40 M3: Oh! five.

41

42 I: five?

43

44 M3: Yeah, I know everything that goes on.

45

46 I: Oh, so high? Very high?

47

48 M3: Yeah, very high.

49

50 I: So it'd be one?

51

52 M3: Oh sorry.

53

54 I: No that's fine. I gotcha. And how would you rate her involvement?

55

[]

56 M3:

Oh, it's one too. We both

57 know everything.

58

59 I: Alright, great. These next questions I have are meant to kind of show me
60 the development of the friendship, so how you guys became friends. And, um, all
61 of the questions, like, some of the questions may not have a definitive answer, you
62 may not be able to remember the exact moment or it may not apply to your
63 relationship. If it doesn't just tell me, "Doesn't apply."

64

65 M3: Okay.

66

67 I: Then we'll move on. So just respond to the best that you can remember. So
68 (.) when was the first time you remember meeting your partner?

69

70 M3: I met her uh (.) we were going outside her hall and I was talking to one of
71 her friends about a math assignment. And she stopped by and I talked to her then. So.

72

[]

73 I:

Okay

74 And that was the first time you met?

75

[]

76 M3: Kinda by happenstance. Yeah.

77

78 I: Okay (.) and do you remember talking to her on this first encounter?

79

80 M3: Just (.) saying hi and how ya doin'. We were still young freshman, so ya
81 know, you're looking to meet everybody.

82

83 I: Yeah.

84

85 M3: So, it was more (.)

86

87 I: Okay. And what kind of things do you remember talking about? Like, do
88 (.) just like, the "Hi, I'm M3."

89

90 M3: Yeah, like, just your typical freshman questions. Uh (.) "What's your
91 major?" Yeah (.) I remember, like the first time I talked to her for the night, it was,

92 uh, she was getting a vacuum out of the (.) Triad Desk. And we just talked from
93 there.

94

95 I: When you (.) first (.) um (.) met her were you ever physically attracted to
96 her?

97

98 M3: Yes.

99

100 I: Do you think she was physically attracted to you?

101

102 M3: Couldn't tell you. Probably not. But (.) cause I think I was the pursuer of
103 that whole thing but (.) it ended.

104

105 I: Alright. Uh, how soon after the first time that you guys met did you see her
106 again?

107

108 M3: Within a week. (.) I don't know, three or four days.

109 []

110 I: Within a week. And what was that like?

111

112 M3: It was fine. It was just "How you doin'?" ya know, and just started coming
113 closer and closer friends at that point, ya know.

114

115 I: In the first early encounters, like, theses first months or whatever, (.) what
116 kind of things did you guys talk about?

117

118 M3: Ah (.) Gosh, I really don't remember. I think it was mostly just (.) ya know
119 typical freshman stuff, the classes you're having, the problems with it, ya know (.)
120 movies, TV.

121

122 I: Yeah.

123

124 M3: Just general small talk.

125

126 I: Kinda getting to know?

127

128 M3: Yeah, gettin' to know.

129

130 I: What was your first impression of her in these first early encounters?

131

132 M3: First impression (.) She was (.) seemed to me like she was, like, a really
133 goody-two-shoes. Which has changed throughout the college experience. But (.)
134 yeah, it was just like, (.) Oh, ya know, she's pretty cool, I wanna hang out with her
135 sort of thing.

136

137 I: What do you think her first impression of you was?

138

139 M3: See I (.), I really don't know. (.) I mean, (.) I was really into sports at the
140 time so I think it was some sort of, like, jock (.) ya know. She went to an all girls
141 school, so this whole thing with guys was new to her.

142

143 I: Okay (.) Do you, um (.), at the time did you think you two had much in
144 common with each other? In, like, these first initial encounters?

145

146 M3: Honestly, I didn't. (.) At all. I didn't think we had very much in common at
147 all besides somewhat similar majors.

148

149 I: Yeah, what's your major?

150

151 M3: Elementary education. She's special.

152

153 I: Oh, okay. (.) So you guys had the education thing in common? What did

154 M3: [Yeah.]

155 you see that was different that you (.) didn't have in common? Like, what kind of
156 things were you

157 []

158 M3: Oh, I mean at the time (.) I'm all into, like, sports, and like, I was totally in
159 the manly sort of thing and like, who cares about females sort of stage. And she
160 was (.) she's about as girly as they come. Ya know, like, would wear the frilly
161 dresses and planning their wedding already and stuff like that. And I was really (.)
162 I didn't get into that and lucky now she's let it go a little bit.

163

164 I: (laugh) Well that's good. Find a compromise.

165

166 M3: Yeah.

167

168 I: When (.) At what point in the friendship do you remember (.) uh (.) sharing
169 something personal with her? Like, when was the first time you shared something

170 M3: [(moans)]

171 personal with her?

172

173 M3: I don't know. It was (.) it was pretty quick, like, within the first month, I
174 mean. Talking about ex relationships sort of thing. Um (.) it wasn't that big of deal
175 at all. It wasn't like a definitive point, I don't think.

176

177 I: Yeah.

178

179 M3: Just passing talk.

180

181 I: When was the first time she shared something with you?

182

- 183 M3: I think, (.) Well, she had a boyfriend at the time and I remember (.) she was
 184 like, either complimenting him or complaining about him, (.) or something and it
 185 was just (.) to everybody, but (.) and then the conversation kinda got deeper from
 186 I: [Right.]
 187 that point on.
 188
- 189 I: So it was about a month or so in or
 190 []
 191 M3: M3 little bit earlier than that. Within a month.
 192
- 193 I: Okay. (.) At what point did you feel that you two had established a sense of
 194 trust?
 195
- 196 M3: Hmm (pause) I would think probably (.) by like, Thanksgiving of that
 197 year. We probably (.) cause by that time we were (.) fairly good friends, not
 198 incredibly good friends like we are now, but (.) I mean. (.) Like, she called me
 199 before she left for Thanksgiving break and like, told me stuff and I told her stuff.
 200 And yeah, when she broke up with her boyfriend, I think that was the first time, I
 201 don't remember when it was. But sometime in there she talked to me about it (.)
 202 so, I think that would probably be the first time.
 203
- 204 I: So that was, like, (.) that was during Thanksgiving of your freshman year? .
 205
- 206 M3: Yeah, yeah.
 207
- 208 I: So probably about three months?
 209
- 210 M3: three months (.) yeah if that. two or three months probably.
 211
- 212 I: And what was it about your partner that you, made you feel like you could
 213 trust her?
 214
- 215 M3: Hmm (pause) I don't know. (.) It was just the feeling that (.) you kinda let
 216 (.) you start off with small stuff talking about past relationships and whatnot. (.)
 217 You realize they haven't told anybody or probably don't even care that much but
 218 you start telling them more and more and they keep. (.) They still don't tell and
 219 they keep their mouth shut and you're like "Oh, okay." And it kinda just builds (.)
 220 I think.
 221
- 222 I: So she just kept all your secrets?
 223
- 224 M3: Yeah, pretty much. She didn't go off and do something behind your back
 225 or whatnot.
 226
- 227 I: (.) Have you and she ever talked about potential sexual or romantic feelings
 228 toward one another? Even, like, joking or

- 229 []
 230 M3: In joking, yeah, joking, yeah.
 231 I: Joking. Okay.
 232
 233 M3: Yes, quite a bit.
 234
 235 I: And when was the first time you guys discussed that, er, began that kind of
 236 joking?
 237
 238 M3: I'd say it's mostly the beginning of this year (.) probably. (.) Yeah, eight
 239 I: [This year.]
 240 months afterwards. Just mostly, I mean, we'd joke about, "Okay, we're having
 241 casual sex tonight." Or, sort of thing, ya know?
 242
 243 I: Yeah, kinda (.) just playing around.
 244
 245 M3: Yeah. We're just joking though.
 246
 247 I: Or the, you also said, (.) your parents or your family think you're together.
 248 M3: [Oh, yeah.]
 249 (.) So, do you guys talk about that kinda
 250 []
 251 M3: Oh yeah. We find it hilarious. I mean, like, we won
 252 an award in the formal saying we were, freakin', together. And I, I felt sorry for
 253 her boyfriend because seriously, people walk by and they're like, "What's with
 254 your girlfriend?" I'm like, "She's not my girlfriend." My parents, my sister thinks
 255 we're together. And I'm like, "No."
 256
 257 I: Yeah. Has it ever been an issue or a problem in your friendship?
 258
 259 M3: No. No. It really hasn't. It's been more of something we joke about.
 260
 261 I: Yeah. (.) Um (.) moving up to like, closer to now, um (.) how often do you
 262 guys see each other or interact now?
 263
 264 M3: Oh (pause) over 10 times daily.
 265
 266 I: Over 10 times daily. So a lot.
 267 []
 268 M3: Yeah Quite a bit.
 269
 270 I: And what kind of activities do you guys do together now?
 271
 272 M3: Lunch. Uh (.) She works at, like, the front desk in my dorm. I sit up there, I
 273 talk to her quite a bit (.) um (.) going to class. We've got classes together. (.) You

274 name it, we probably (.) we've got meetings at night. She's in the same
 275 organizations I am and went to Mardi Gras together (.) Just stuff like that.

276

277 I: So on weekends do you guys do stuff then too?

278

[]

279 M3:

Yeah, uh (.) yeah, I go out, I try to
 280 go out with her (.) once a weekend. Course my weekends lately have consisted of
 281 five nights, but (.) like, one of those nights I try to do something with her. (.) And I
 282 don't know. (.) She recently broke up with her boyfriend and so it's kinda like, I
 283 kinda feel obligated now to do more stuff with her cause I think she needs to go
 284 out and (.) like, have a good time with someone besides her boyfriend.

285

286 I: What kind of things do you guys talk about now? Like, before you said you
 287 guys talked about school and freshman stuff.

288

[]

[]

289 M3: Uh

Now, I mean, mostly (.) uh (.) recently (.)
 290 uh (.) the break-up with her boyfriend. For hours and hours (.) I was getting sick of
 291 it. Uh (.) on end, but I mean, (.) anything and everything. She knows, if something
 292 happens (.) anything remotely in my life, she knows about it. Um (.) Just tonight,
 293 uh (.), my friends were going to some sorority (.) luau (.) and I was, like, Ahh. I
 294 didn't go cause I didn't know anybody. Well, she knew somebody, she talked to
 295 them, I'm going tonight after this. So, it's just, (.) it's just, every little thing she
 296 knows about me (.) which is pretty scary, but (.)

297

298 I: (laugh)

299

300 M3: But, and actually, it's, it's awesome. And the same with me. I know
 301 everything, everything that goes on in her day, in her life pretty much.

302

303 I: Are there any kind of topics or anything you would not talk to her about?

304

305 M3: Out of her boredom, probably, I mean, (.) talk about how I played at
 306 racquetball today or something. It's not something I'd bring up. But, besides (.) no
 307 anything (.) I'd talk about anything with her.

308

309 I: Do you feel like this friendship is different from your same-sex
 310 friendships?

311

312 M3: I really do. I've (.) I've not known why, but I feel a lot more comfortable
 313 talking about relationships and even sexual tensions between people with females
 314 rather than males. It's funny cause, like, when I'm with like, my really good friend
 315 from second grade, like, I've known him throughout and we don't talk about that
 316 stuff (.) at all (.) it's just, it's kinda something you assume goes on but you just let
 317 it go and if he wants to tell ya, great. If not, don't worry about it. And F3 either
 318 pushes it out of me or I'm really quick to tell her exactly what happens and I don't

319 know (.) I feel that I can tell, I could tell her a lot more stuff than any one of my
320 guy friends.

321

322 I: Are there any disadvantages to this friendship?

323

324 M3: Um (pause) I don't know. (.) Like, the sexual thing. That's kinda one just
325 because, you go out with her to bars, people think you're taken, so that's kinda
326 like, "I want to hang out with you, but then again, I don't want to hang out with
327 you." That's (.) I mean, that's one thing that (.) we kinda argued about cause there
328 was a while because we didn't go out that much, like, we went out once in a while
329 but not that often. And one of the reasons is cause I was going out with my guys
330 trying to pick up girls and it was a really good time and I like going out with F3
331 but it's more of, like, a relaxed sort of setting. So, ya know.

332

333 I: Makes it hard to get somebody's attention.

334

335 M3: Yeah, exactly!

336

337 I: Yeah. Um (.) When you two argue, what do you argue about?

338

339 M3: Oh gosh (.) we really (.) haven't argued unless jokingly. I mean, (.) today
340 she was a little (.) she woke up grouchy today, I think her roommate woke her up
341 or something last night, and I pretty much told her, I was like, "You know what?
342 Call me when you get out of this bad mood." Sort of thing. And she eventually got
343 out of it, but I mean, we really (.) it's really weird. We really haven't fought at all.

344

345 I: Cool. (.) Now, you said that she recently broke up with her boyfriend or
346 whatever.

347

348 M3: Yeah.

349

350 I: Has this relationship, like, do you notice if the relationship has changed or
351 changes when there is a boyfriend or girlfriend involved with either you or her?

352

353 M3: Ya know, (.) luckily, it like, it kind of did because going into the
354 relationship, she started dating the guy. And he (.) came into the point that we
355 were pretty good friends and it kinda evolved (.) through all that point. (.) And it's
356 funny, because (.) he knew that nothing was ever going to happen between us and
357 he seemed to be the only one to know that. But (.) he actually (.) he actually
358 handled it incredibly well (.) and he almost embraced it because (snaps fingers) get
359 rid of the girlfriend for a night of the weekend, ya know, go out and have a good
360 time.

361

362 I: Yeah.

363

364 M3: Um (.) I think (.) lately it's changed the aspect of the friendship cause it's
 365 not so much, let's go out and have fun. It's more like (snaps fingers) "What am I
 366 gonna do?" "What would you do?" "How am I suppose to handle this?" Sort of
 367 thing.

368

369 I: So, it's been a lot more talk?

370

371 M3: M3 lot more talk, yeah, lately. Yeah. Than it's been, like, less fun stuff and
 372 more serious.

373

374 I: Okay. (.) So have, are there any problems then with (.) with uh (.)
 375 whenever you date someone or anything romantically, is there any problems that
 376 they (.) see with the relationship?

377

378 M3: Yes. Yeah. I did date, I dated a girl for about three months last year. She
 379 was incredibly jealous of F3. Incredibly jealous. And I, I told her and I told her
 380 time and again, I was like "There's nothing going on. You know if there was
 381 something going on it would have happened by now." And they just didn't seem to
 382 get it and finally, I ended up breaking up with her over it cause I was sick of it.
 383 And that among other things I was just like, "Forget this. It's not even worth it." (.)
 384 Even, even, like, when I start relationships now, I tell them, like, "This is my best
 385 friend." Ya know. "I'll probably hang out with her more than I'll hang out with
 386 you. Don't be jealous." Or (.) I don't know.

387

388 I: Do you ever feel like you put more into the relationship than your partner?

389

390 M3: No. No, I think she puts just as much if not more in it than I do (.) honestly.

391

392 I: Do you ever feel that you expect more than you're actually getting?

393

394 M3: No. No.

395

396 I: Do you ever feel that she's expecting too much?

397

398 M3: At times because she always expects too much. I think no matter what, (.)
 399 like, I feel (.) I felt sorry for her boyfriend. I incredibly did. Because, she made
 400 him call her every night, like, this is the things why, I never could date her. Cause
 401 she made him call every night, yelled at him for being late at every turn. Um (.)
 402 made him go up and give her a kiss every night before she went to bed. I mean,
 403 just these things that would drive me insane. And people don't see these things,
 404 like, the people who see her in passing, or the people that think we're dating or
 405 "Why aren't you dating her?" (.) um (.) but it was (.) it's just (.) really weird.

406

407 I: Moving on to like, the future of the friendship.

408

409 M3: Mm hmm.

410

411 I: Where do you see your cross-sex friendship in say, five years?

412

413 M3: (pause) Ya know, I really don't know. I mean, I see us as being very strong
414 throughout, we're gonna be, it's gonna be a little weird next year. I'm wondering
415 how it's gonna go because we're not gonna be so close. Um (.) we didn't live in
416 the same buildings, but we lived right next door. Um(.) she's moving across
417 campus. So, it's gonna be, it's gonna be more difficult but I see it growing. I see us
418 doing a lot of stuff together. Um (.) the problem is that (.) she (.) that she wants to
419 go back to Chicago, where she's from (.) and I'm from central Illinois and I have
420 no intention of going up to Chicago, and she has no intention of staying here. So,
421 I'm kinda curious on how it's gonna go outside of that because I really don't
422 know. And I'm sure, I mean, I'm sure we're gonna keep in touch, but, I'm
423 wondering if it's gonna be as intense as it is right now.

424

425 I: Um (.) what about, like you said, whenever she lives up north and you live
426 in central Illinois. Or if you live in separate states, do you think you'll still call or
427 try and get together?

428

429 M3: Oh yeah! Yeah. I think so. I really do.

430

431 I: What about when you, one or both of you get married or have kids?

432

433 M3: I don't see that as a problem because the way I've seen it is she's been
434 married for a year, ya know?

435

436 I: Yeah.

437

438 M3: And it's, it's never been that big of a deal. (.) I just (.) I (.) I'm wondering
439 how her next boyfriend will deal with me, cause none of her, she's never had to go
440 after a guy and (.) besides this guy (.) to have to deal with me. And (.) I know I'm
441 a jealous person pretty much and I'm just wondering how other guys would deal
442 with it having this other guy around your girl all the time.

443

444 I: Well, that's all my questions. Anything else?

445

446 M3: Nope.

447

448 I: Thank you.

Appendix J

3 Individual Interview with Female 3

4 Female 3 (25 minutes, 25 seconds)

6 I: Um (.) first I'd like to say thank you so much for participating. I really
 7 appreciate you guys (.) um (.) doing this and I'd like to remind you all of your
 8 answers are confidential and the only person who will be either seeing the tapes or
 9 hearing them would be me (.) and that's to analyze my data and collect it and stuff.
 10 So, um, (.) your name will probably be changed within the findings so I won't be
 11 using your name or anything.

13 F3: Okay.

15 I: If you're uncomfortable answering any of the questions just tell me (.) "I'm
 16 uncomfortable" or "I don't want to answer that." No problem. We'll move on.

17 []

18 F3: Okay Okay.

20 I: So, (.) first (pause) With an "I"?

22 F3: Yeah (.)

24 I: Okay. And how old are you?

26 F3: I am 19 (.) Soon to be 20.

28 I: When's your birthday?

30 F3: July (laugh)

32 I: Ooo.

34 F3: Not that soon (laugh) but, I can't wait.

35 []

36 I: That's alright. It's coming. You're a summer baby
 37 too. That's me. I'm August. (.) Um (.) How long have you and M3 been friends?

39 F3: Since (.) um let's see (.) about October of 99. Like, (.) yeah, October
 40 somewhere in that vicinity.

42 I: Okay. (.) And how would you describe your relationship with M3 to
 43 somebody who doesn't know (.) you guys?

45 F3: Um (.) well (.) he's just my best friend. Like, he does, he is everything to
 46 me that, like, one of my best girlfriends would be.

47 I: Yeah.

48

49 F3: Which I know people find it very strange, but he is (.) so, um (.) I, I mean
50 he, (.) when I have a problem I go to him (.) anything comes up, ya know, I go to
51 him (.) and we go out together, we have fun together. He's just like the role of a
52 best friend.

53

54 I: Okay. Um (.) on a scale of one to five with one being high and five being
55 low, which would best describe your level of involvement in the relationship
56 recently? So, one is high, five is low, how would you rate yourself as far as being
57 involved in the relationship right now?

58

59 F3: I would say one.

60

61 I: One? Okay (.) and what, where would you rate your partner?

62

63 F3: One.

64

65 I: One?

66

67 F3: Yeah.

68

69 I: Okay. Um (.) These next questions that I have are just meant to show the
70 development of the friendship and some of the questions may not have a definitive
71 answer where you can say "Yes, it was this day at this time."

72

73 F3: Okay.

74

75 I: But that's okay, just give an approximate time or length of the relationship
76 or whatever. Um (.) some of the questions may not apply to your friendship and if
77 that's the case just tell me it doesn't apply. Um (.) but just respond to the best of
78 your memory and if it doesn't apply just tell me it doesn't.

79

80 F3: Alright.

81

82 I: So, when was the first time you remember meeting your partner?

83

84 F3: Um (.) It was, I think it was in October of that year. I said and um (.) we (.)
85 we like just met in his lobby. Like, my roommate and I were standing in there and
86 he came out. And we just started talking and (.) then, ya know, like, cause we lived
87 so close to each other we'd see each other all the time. So and originally, like, it
88 started out, all three of us, my roommate, M3 and I all together, but then it kinda
89 separated. My roommate left the picture. Then it was just M3 and I and then at that
90 point we just became inseparable. So that was (.) like, I remember meeting him, I
91 remember the place. It was in that time where, (.) cause I think I remember it was
92 right around his birthday and his birthday's in October.

93 I: Okay.

94

95 F3: So that's the reason I remember the month like that.

96

97 I: Alright. That's great. When you first met him, were you ever physically
98 attracted to him?

99

100 F3: I wasn't. No.

101

102 I: No.

103

104 F3: No.

105

106 I: Do you think he was attracted to you?

107

108 F3: Well, I (laugh) well, I don't know what he said (laugh) but I know that, like
109 I heard rumors that he was, like, it was kinda like he liked me. (.) And then, after a
110 while (.) it was kinda like, like, well ya know, we're such good friends, ya know.
111 He just, he just kinda got over it (.) cause I was dating a guy from back home when
112 we first met still, so it was kinda like, (.) I wasn't exactly available and then by the
113 time, ya know, anything could even come of it, ya know, we were kinda like,
114 "Why should we date? We're such good friends now."

115

116 I: Okay. On the first, you said the first time you met him was in his lobby or
117 whatever (.) um, did you guys talk on this first time?

118

119 F3: yeah.

120

121 I: What kind of things did you talk about?

122

123 F3: I have no clue what we talked about.

124

125 I: Okay.

126

127 F3: I can not remember that. I think we (.) I wanna say that my roommate and I
128 were getting a vacuum from the front desk, possibly. For some reason I remember
129 that, but I really don't have a clue what we talked about or anything like that.

130

131 I: That's alright. So how soon after that first time that you saw him or met
132 him did you see him again?

133

134 F3: I'm sure I, (.) I'm sure we saw him, like (.) within a couple days. If not,
135 like that next day or something like that. I don't remember if like, we hung out
136 with him that night, like, he used to come over to our room all the time and I don't
137 remember if he came over that night or if, (.) but I would say within those couple

138 days. Like, I don't remember him not being there, like, after that point of meeting
139 him.

140

141 I: Alright.

142

143 F3: So, I think it was pretty close.

144

145 I: In these first few times that you guys were hanging or whatever or when he
146 came over, what kind of topics did you guys talk about? Like, what kinds of things
147 did you guys talk about?

148

149 F3: Um (.) I don't know. I don't remember that either (.) um, I'm sure we (.) ya know
150 talked about the basic stuff that college students talk about. Like, a lot of joking around,
151 and stuff like that. I don't remember, like, specific conversations or anything like that.

152 []

153 I: No, just any kind of topics. Can you
154 think of any kind of things you guys talked about?

155

156 F3: I'm sure we talked about our family, ya know, (.) and like, we talked about
157 our majors.

158

159 I: I'm sorry. Was this your freshman year?

160

161 F3: Yeah.

162

163 I: Okay.

164

165 F3: So, (.) I'm sure we talked about like, what we were majoring in. M3 and I
166 had a lot in common cause we're both education majors, but there's also some
167 differences cause I'm Special Ed. And he's El. Ed. So, ya know, and I (.) we had
168 to have talked about so much stuff cause M3 knows everything about me so, and I
169 don't (.) ya know, we've known each other for so long that it's all become part of
170 our conversations along the way. (.) So, I don't really (.)

171

172 I: Alright. (.) Um, what was your first impression of M3 in these first few
173 encounters?

174

175 F3: Well, (.) M3 is (.) (laugh) he is very competitive, like, he's one of the most
176 competitive people I know. And that has always been a big thing with me. Like,
177 settle down, everything doesn't have to be so competitive. So that was one of the
178 first things. Another thing, like, ya know, (.) he's just (.) he's a funny guy. He just
179 makes me laugh all the time and I've always thought he was a really funny guy,
180 so. (.) But, the most (.) the biggest thing is his competitiveness. That (.) it just (.)
181 like, it's so far above every other quality that he has it sticks out. Especially when
182 it comes time to like, actually go out and play a sport. You can just see it in his
183 face how competitive he is.

184

- 185 I: So initially you kinda saw that?
186
- 187 F3: Yeah, I did.
188
- 189 I: Alright. And what do you think his impression of you was initially?
190
- 191 F3: (laugh) Uh (.) well he thinks (laugh) I know he thought (.) he thinks that
192 I'm (.) completely like, this huge perfectionist, like (.) I know (.) I don't know if he
193 saw this like initially. He probably did. But, like, just perfection with everything
194 that I do, like, study, like all the time kind of a person and ya know, he's
195 completely opposite. Cause he never does that kind of stuff. So, I think those are
196 (.) like, qualities that he really saw.
197
- 198 I: Alright. Um (.) do you think you guys had much in common in these first
199 couple of encounters? (.) Did you see a whole lot (.) in common?
200
- 201 F3: I, no. (.) Honestly (.) like, I mean we have fun hanging around each other,
202 but I would've never, like, (.) back, like, when I first met him (.) like, I would've
203 never thought that we'd be like to the point where we are now. Like, ya know, (.)
204 calling each other like three times a day (.) ya know, having to talk to each other
205 and that kind of stuff. (.) I would've never thought it would've gotten (.) ya know,
206 like, I knew that we would be friends, that we'd go out together and have a good
207 time together, but I never would've thought it was like (.) this (.) ya know. Just
208 kind of a relationship.
209
- 210 I: Yeah. (.) When was the first time you remember sharing something
211 personal with him? (.) Like, how far into the friendship was it do you think?
212
- 213 F3: Um (.) well, I think (.) it was pretty close because (.) I (.) the guy that I was
214 dating at home and I, ya know, we broke up right around that time just because of
215 the distance stuff and, ya know (.) that was like, I mean it wasn't really hard on me
216 cause we hadn't been dating that long and it was understandable what the reasons
217 were and that kind of stuff, but I think I, like, confided in him a lot during that
218 time. Ya know (.) because it just happened and then, ya know, being at school I
219 didn't have like, my best friends from home there with me so, he was there, he was
220 the one that I talked to.
221
- 222 I: So how far into the friendship was that?
223
- 224 F3: That had to have been, like, at least within the first month.
225
- 226 I: Within the first month?
227
- 228 F3: Yeah.
229
- 230 I: Okay, when was the first time that he shared something personal with you?

231

232 F3: (.) Um, (.) I do not know. (pause) I don't like, I remember when his aunt
 233 died. She was real young and she died of cancer, I think (.) I think I think. (.) I
 234 don't remember what she died of exactly but I think it was cancer (.) but um (.) I
 235 don't remember when that was. I don't think it was till later on in the relationship.
 236 That's probably not the first personal thing but that's one that sticks out in my
 237 mind but that was, like, probably four or five months at least. It was a lot later than
 238 me cause I'm more personal and he's not as much, ya know?

239

240 I: Yeah. (.) Okay. (.) At what point in your friendship, like how far into the
 241 friendship, did you feel that you two had established a sense of trust?

242

243 F3: Um (.) well, I'm (.) I'm a trusting person and like, I'm basically, like, I
 244 trust you unless you give me a reason not to. So, that trust, like, ya know (.) I
 245 could tell him things and I knew that he wouldn't go back and say something to
 246 somebody else. Like, I established that right away. Ya know? Right when we
 247 started hanging out so much. And, ya know, obviously when I was sharing my
 248 personal feelings with him and stuff like that, (.) that was like, (.) I obviously
 249 trusted him. So, (.) when I (.) I think, like, yeah, that first month too then, ya know.
 250 I felt comfortable enough to share that kind of stuff with him and I trust him. (.)

251

252 I: Okay (.) um, (.) what was it about him that made you feel you could trust
 253 him?

254

255 F3: I think it's (.) it's his outgoing personality, cause (.) he's so outgoing and
 256 like, (.) I'm not, I'm more of a introverted person and I always have been, but (.)
 257 ya know, when somebody comes to me and they're really outgoing and really
 258 talkative, and they get me talking (.) it's just like (.) you just kinda fall into that
 259 with them and so (.) our relationship, ya know, I just got used to being that way
 260 with him cause he was like that.

261

262 I: Alright. Um (.) have you and your partner ever talked about potential
 263 sexual or romantic feelings toward one another?

264

265 F3: Oh! (laugh) We joke around about having casual sex all the time (laugh)
 266 But, like, we wouldn't actually do it (laugh) it's just a constant joke between us. (.)
 267 Um (.) we do, we joke about it constantly because his parents are like, ya know,
 268 "Why don't you date F3?" and all his friends and all my friends and we're just
 269 kinda like, "He's like my brother" and "She's like my sister." And so, I mean,
 270 we've never talked about it seriously, but we joke around about it (.) all the time.

271

272 I: Um (.) and so, (.) what about other people, like you said his parents and
 273 people say, "Why don't you guys date?" What do you, how do you guys deal with
 274 that with each other?

275

276 F3: Well, we just tell each other every time it happens cause we think it's
 277 funny. But, we're just so used to it now too (.) But, at first it was kinda like (.)
 278 "Uh" ya know and even (.) like, Matt too. He's like, "One day, you guys are gonna
 279 get married and I'm gonna have to actually go into a church and sit in the back row
 280 to see the wedding ceremony." And I'm just like, "I don't think that's gonna
 281 happen." Ya know? We've had so many people who've just come to us and
 282 thought that we were together just because the way we are with each other and we
 283 have to be like, "No." ya know, so (.) well, we just (.) we laugh it off. It's not like
 284 that serious of a thing.

285

286 I: So it's never been an issue or a problem.

287

288 F3: No, huh uh.

289

290 I: Moving up to more of, like, now, where your friendship is at now, how
 291 often do you and your partner interact now?

292

293 F3: Um (.) we, like, I have to (.) we talk to each other at least once a day, that's
 294 a given. Like, uh (.) when he went away for a week to Toronto, I was, like, going
 295 crazy cause I'm so used to picking up the phone and dialing his number, like, once
 296 a day or whenever and even if like, if I'm at the front desk working, cause I work
 297 at the front desk in that hall (.) so, if I'm working, he's out there. He comes out at
 298 least twice, ya know. During the time that I'm working to come talk to me or
 299 something like that. So (.) we interact constantly, it's constant, ya know.

300 []

301 I: Okay. What

302 activities to you guys do together now?

303

304 F3: Um (.) (laugh) well we go party together. That's M3's favorite (laugh) um
 305 (.) I like to just, I mean we just hang around and watch TV. Um (.) we'll sit like,
 306 we'll sit in his room and I'll sit on his bed and he'll sit on his desk and we'll, like,
 307 throw a ball back and forth, like, just for hours cause we're, like, so bored and we
 308 have nothing else to do. So, ya know, just to keep ourselves occupied. (.) We do
 309 everything under the sun with each other. So.

310

311 I: Alright, and what kind of things, like you said before you guys talked
 312 about pretty much the basic things not really a whole lot in depth, but what kind of
 313 things do you guys talk about now?

314

315 F3: (pause) Um. (.) I talk, we talk constantly about relationships with other
 316 people. Um (.) like, I constantly tell him about how I feel about, ya know, (.) my
 317 boyfriend and I just separated kinda on a break and so (.) all this time things have
 318 been running through my head about this (.) M3's the one that I've been going to,
 319 ya know and talking about that with him and he does the same with me with girls.
 320 Ya know. (.) Cause he had a tendency to date really, like, these psychos (laugh)
 321 crazy girls (laugh) so they, like, never work out. So he, like, (.) I mean, he doesn't

322 come out and say that he's worried about it but I think kinda inside he gets, like, a
 323 little worried sometimes. It's like, "When am I gonna find a normal girl?" And
 324 (laugh), ya know, so we talk, we talk a lot about, like, our relationships, like, with
 325 the opposite sex or other people. And, um (.) we like, we talk about everything. (.)
 326 Grades (.) studying (.) like, our study habits, ya know, they're so different (.) so we
 327 (.) everything that, imaginable we talk about it. We have, like, no secrets.

328

329 I: Do you, is there anything you would not talk to him about?

330

331 F3: Um (.) well, (laugh) actually there is one thing. Like, right now, I'm kinda
 332 going through this thing (.) I'm talking to this other guy (laugh) he, like, (.) he's a
 333 little weird about this because he's very protective of me and so, like, if he (.) he's
 334 kinda like, you're not allowed to talk to other guys till I meet them and approve of
 335 them (laugh).

336

337 I: So, kinda like that whole brother thing.

338

339 F3: Yeah! It's just, he's like, you're like my little sister and I really hate that
 340 because I don't have, like, freedom in that area. But, like, I know if I went to him
 341 and talked to him about it, he would understand. But (.) we'd probably, not like get
 342 in a real big argument or anything like that, but we'd probably argue back and
 343 forth about it for awhile, ya know? (.) And (.) so that's actually one thing, like
 344 that's going on right now that I haven't really told him. Like, I haven't told him a
 345 lot about this guy or, like, kinda on a regular, every few days we'll talk to each
 346 other or hang out or something like that and I mean, it's not serious or anything
 347 like that, but (.) he um (.) it just takes (.) it would take him, like, a little bit more to
 348 understand than I would, I feel like explaining. I don't feel like explaining the
 349 whole thing to him.

350

351 I: Yeah.

352

353 F3: That's kinda, just, like, uh, I'll keep it to myself for a little while (laugh).

354

355 I: Alright.

356

357 F3: Eventually he'll know, but (.) just for right now.

358

359 I: Um (.) do you feel like this friendship is different from your same-sex
 360 friendships?

361

362 F3: Um (pause) I do because (.) only because he's a guy and so I can get a
 363 guy's perspective on everything. (.) And, I really like because, (.) I honestly hang
 364 around with a lot of guys. (.) I don't know why. Probably because, like, (.) I hung
 365 around with pretty much all girls when I was at home (.) so this is different for me.
 366 (.) And, like, I went to an all girls school. So, ya know, being in a co-ed kind of
 367 atmosphere, it's different for me and (.) to be honest, guys can be so much nicer

368 than girls sometimes, so um. (.) It's like, the guys perspective, like, whenever I
 369 was worried about what, like, my ex was thinking, I could just be like, ya know, to
 370 M3 and he could explain things to me and, that I couldn't understand cause I'm
 371 not in that position and so then I could go back to him and I could say, ya know, "I
 372 think this is hat is bothering you." Or "This is what you've been trying to tell me"
 373 and so then that way, it can open up our lines of communication in my boyfriend
 374 girlfriend relationship.

375

376 I: Yeah (.) okay. So it is different from your same-sex. Okay. (.) So those,

377 F3: [yeah.]

378 that's kinda like the benefits, what are, what are, like, are there any disadvantages?

379

380 F3: Um (.) the disadvantage is him being, like, very protective of me. That's a
 381 definite disadvantage. Not all the time because I do like that he's protective of me,
 382 but in some cases it goes too far. (.) Ya know, with me, like, meeting other people,
 383 other guys it's kinda like, I kinda need to live that part of my life. So (.) um (.) and
 384 it's not that I don't think he's (.) eventually (.) he'd understand it's just kinda like,
 385 in the first place I'd feel like, "Maybe we should just kinda, you should back off a
 386 little bit, too." So that's a disadvantage.

387

388 I: Okay (.) when you two argue, what kind of things do you argue about?

389

390 F3: Um (pause) stupid stuff because I don't remember having an argument so
 391 (laugh) it's obviously stupid stuff. We did (pause) um (.) I, like, sometimes he
 392 does, like, really stupid stuff, ya know, like, where I'm just kinda like, "Why did
 393 you say something like that?" Like (.) he'll, he'll do something, like, that isn't
 394 exactly the best way to treat a girl and then I get upset with him then (.) cause, it's
 395 like, ya know, "M3, I know you know better than that." So, um (.) but it (.) we
 396 hardly ever, I don't remember us ever really arguing, so (.) and if we do it's stupid
 397 stuff or just, like, fake, silly arguing, ya know?

398

399 I: Good. Okay. (.) I know you were, you just said about you got out of a, your
 400 boyfriend and you are on a break or whatever, so how has this friendship changed
 401 whenever one or both of you are romantically involved with some one else?

402

403 F3: Um (.)

404

405 I: Or does it?

406

407 F3: With my last relationship it didn't. (.) Um, because my boyfriend and M3
 408 and I, like, we all knew each other prior to when my boyfriend and I started dating
 409 and um (.) so, it didn't really affect me. Like, our relationship at all because Chris
 410 knew that M3 was my best friend, ya know. And he knew that, nothing was gonna
 411 happen between us or anything like that because (.) ya know, he knew that I would
 412 never cheat on him with M3 of all people. So, um (.) M3's relationships I think are
 413 a lot more affected than mine are, like, um (.) the one long term relationship he

414 was in our freshmen year when we met (.) he, like, she just, a lot of times they're,
 415 like, get really jealous of me cause M3 tends to, like, ya know, "F3's my best
 416 friend and I want to spend time with her," ya know, "so don't be jealous if I call
 417 you and I say I'm not going out with you tonight cause I'm gonna go out with
 418 her," ya know, "just because she's my best friend and she's come," like, I just (.)
 419 we both put each other as a priority in our life.

420

421 I: Okay.

422

423 F3: In our lives. So, ya know, he says, (.) we kinda come off straight forward
 424 when we meet new people and, ya know, we kinda get into a little bit of a
 425 relationship with them (.) we pretty much come out and say, "Ya know, I'm just
 426 gonna warn you now that my best friend is a guy and he's a priority, so if you
 427 don't, ya know, if you have a problem with that then there's gonna be a problem in
 428 our relationship."

429

430 I: Okay. That's good. (.) So you don't feel like it's a problem within your
 431 friendship?

432

433 F3: No.

434

435 I: Do you ever feel that you put more into the relationship than your partner
 436 does?

437

438 F3: Um (pause) No, I don't think so at all. Um (.) we're definitely give and
 439 take, (.) ya know, both of us, so.

440

441 I: Do you ever feel that you expect more from the relationship than what
 442 you're actually getting?

443

444 F3: Um (.) no.

445

446 I: Do you ever feel that he's expecting too much from you?

447

448 F3: Hm Mm.

449

450 I: Kay. (.) The next few questions I have are kinda looking to the future of the
 451 relationship. Um (.) where do you see your cross-sex friendship in say, five years?

452

453 F3: Um (.) well, (.) by that time we'll hopefully both be graduated and away
 454 from Eastern. So, um (.) I don't know. Like, I mean, I know we'll keep in touch. I
 455 think we'll be a distance apart because I think I'll go back to Chicago and he'll
 456 stay in the Champaign area. Um (.) but, we'll definitely keep in touch. Definitely,
 457 like, visiting each other, each other's families. I can see, like, our kids, ya know,
 458 like, being good friends, ya know, because we have to get together. Like, I
 459 couldn't imagine, ya know, not having him in my life from, like, now on. So.

460

461 I: So, you kinda touched on this already, but what about when you live in
 462 separate cities or state? Like, how do you think it'll change?

463

[]

464 F3:

Um (.) I think that (.) communication will probably
 465 not be as often, (.) um but (.) I think it will definitely um (.) it'll definitely, keep in
 466 touch with each other, especially with e-mail, I mean, ya know. It's so easy now to
 467 do that and um (.) even if we're living in different cities or different states, we'll
 468 still get together periodically, I think because I don't see, ya know, why (.) ya
 469 know (.) just for like a weekend to go off and, like, barbeque or something in the
 470 summer, ya know, stupid stuff like that and just to get together and (.)

471

472 I: Now, were are you from and where is he from?

473

474 F3: I'm from Chicago.

475

476 I: Okay.

477

478 F3: And he's from Mohomet, which is right outside Champaign.

479

[]

480 I: Outside Champaign. Alright. So

481 what about when one or both of you get married?

482

483 F3: Um (.) well,

484

485 I: Where do you see your friendship then?

486

487 F3: (.) I think (.) when (.) I don't know who would be married first, that's kinda
 488 a hard question, but um (.) it's (.) if we got married, I think, ya know (.) M3 would
 489 be in my wedding. I think I would be in his wedding. It'd be just like if I were, ya
 490 know, I think he would almost be like, "I wish you could be, like, my best man."
 491 And that's how I would be, ya know, although my sister would be first but (laugh)

492

493 I: (laugh)

494

495 F3: Don't tell M3 that though (laugh) um (.) but, I think (.) ya know, (.) it's
 496 like, I know I'll be happy for him, because that's what I'm there for. As long as the
 497 girl is a great girl, which I know she would be, I don't think M3 would marry just
 498 anybody. (.) I know that he wouldn't marry anybody that didn't get along with me
 499 too. So, I think, like, when he got married, like, his wife and I could be good
 500 friends. I think the same thing with, like, whoever I marry and M3, they would be
 501 friends too, so I don't think it would cause any problems.

502

503 I: And you already kinda touched on this too, but whenever one or both of
 504 you have kids?

505

506 F3: Yeah, I think our kids, like, (.) well, I think it'll be funny because, we'll,
507 like, get up there and the kids all'd be playing and M3, like, "Go! Go! Win! Win!"
508 while I'm like, "Just have fun!" (laugh) Ya know? I think that'll be one of the only
509 differences, like, when our kids get together. Yeah, I think like, our kids will
510 definitely, like, be ya know, know each other well, cause we'll get together I think
511 (.) pretty often. I hope so. I would hate to see our relationship later on be, like,
512 pretty stagnant and nothing much happening in it, cause (.) we're so close now.
513
514 I: Okay. Well (.) those are all of my questions. Thanks again.

Appendix K

1
23 Joint Interview with Dyad 3

4 Dyad 3 (11 minutes)

5

6 This had to be transcribed off the videotape. There are some sections that
7 are inaudible because of this.

8

9 I: Okay, once again, thank you so much for doing this. Um (.) and just to let
10 you know, before I didn't really tell you guys exactly what I was looking for, um
11 (.) I still can't tell you what I'm looking for, but from this study what I hope to do
12 is contribute to everyone's understanding of cross-sex friendship. I mean, right
13 now, I know you guys have things you have to deal with from people who don't
14 understand what exactly a cross-sex friend is. (.) so by doing this study, I hope to
15 help, to contribute and hopefully make it easier on everyone to understand (.) what
16 exactly a cross-sex friendship is and how they are formed as opposed to, you
17 know, saying it's weird or (.) whatever. So (.) um (.) I know being that I just
18 finished the interview with you, you two probably haven't really talked about this
19 or anything unless if M3, you talked

20 []

21 M3: Very briefly (.) but not really at all.

22 []

23 F3: Not really at all.

24

25 I: Okay. So what I want you to do for this one (.) and this is really kinda a
26 free-for-all, and not a whole lot of questions and not a whole lot of structure. What
27 I want you guys to do is tell me the story of how you (.) like (.) the story of how
28 you two became friends. Ya know, and uh (.) whoever wants to start, can go ahead

29 F3: [You go]

30 M3: [You got it]

31 and if the other wants to add any to the story (.) just go ahead and jump in. If I
32 have any questions I'll ask as we go.

33

34 F3: He's not gonna jump in (laugh) this is how it goes. It goes, me talk and he

35 M3: [You got a better memory than I do.] (laugh)

36 copies

37

38 I: Well that's alright. If you've got a different perspective of something or
39 either of you, you guys can just jump in. If you have something to contribute that
40 the other one may not remember (.) um (.)

41

42 F3: Okay.

43

44 I: Whatever (.) but just tell me (.) aside from the immediate, like, the very
45 first meeting, how exactly did your friendship develop? How did you guys become
46 friends?

47

48 F3: (.) I don't (.) um (.) okay (.) we met, ya know, so on and so on. (.) M3 came
 49 over all the time (pause) and he hung out with me and my roommate both. (pause)
 50 And then (.) eventually my roommate kinda drifted from the picture and then it
 51 was just me and M3 and then (.) I don't know. (pause)

52

53 M3: Alright, that was a bad story.

54

55 F3: (laugh)

56

57 M3: Um (.) Ended up meeting through a friend of her's, Stephanie (.) um (.)

58

59 F3: That's how we met?!

60

61 M3: Yeah, that's how we met. Yeah. (.) And uh (.) you were (.) I was talking to

62 F3: [I don't remember that. (.) See!]

63 her about some assignment and you came down with her and that's how I met you.

64

65 F3: [] I was with Stephanie?

66

67 M3: You were with Stephanie (.) and then, God you have a bad memory, and then

68

69 F3: [] Oh my! I do remember that

70 now!

71

72 M3: Yeah. (.) Okay, you're an idiot. Alright (laugh)

73

74 F3: ()

75

76 M3: And I ended up talking to both of them and I went back to their room and
 77 like, and then we started meeting more and more and I did go over to their room a
 78 lot, just to hang out, talk and stuff, watch TV cause we were freshman and we had
 79 nothing better to do.

80

81 F3: (laugh)

82

83 M3: Yeah, that ended. And (.) uh (.)

84

85 F3: (laugh) That was back in the day before we really partied too. Now we

86 M3: [()] [Yeah]

87 have better things to do at night. (laugh)

88

89 F3: Yeah.

90

91 I: So that was first semester, right?

92

- 93 M3: Yeah. First semester really early.
 94 []
 95 F3: Yeah.
 96
 97 I: So what happened then second semester?
 98
 99 F3: (pause) I had to walk M3 across Lincoln because he was too (laugh).
 100 []
 101 M3: Yeah. I never (.) I
 102 never drank, like, I was all good and proper going into college and I was all
 103 worried about soccer scholarships and whatnot and (.) uh (.) yeah (.) first time I
 104 got drunk, I got drunk with F3 there and she had to walk me across Lincoln. I was
 105 F3: [(laugh)]
 106 like, "I have to hold your hand." (.) And it was pretty funny (.) yeah. (.) And then
 107 F3: [()]
 108 F3 a little bit last year, she's (.) she's a little good Catholic school girl sort of
 109 thing. Not drinking (.) Not, yeah we changed that too.
 110
 111 F3: (laugh) M3 corrupted me.
 112 []
 113 M3: And And so (.) second semester we went out a little bit,
 114 (.) and she was dating her, uh (.) boyfriend at the time, and uh (.) they were doing
 115 their own thing and I was doing my own thing. We didn't hang out as much, but (.)
 116 it was still (.) hung out quite a bit, so.
 117
 118 I: (pause) And that leads up to now?
 119
 120 F3: (pause) Pretty much. (laugh)
 121 []
 122 M3: Yeah. () Well, we went to Mardi Gras and stuff. I mean, it's
 123 F3: [(laugh)]
 124 mostly just hanging out. Not, nothing too incredibly exciting, I guess.
 125
 126 I: So it's just (.) you guys just hung out together a lot? And that's how it
 127 started?
 128
 129 F3: Yeah.
 130 []
 131 M3: Pretty much. Nothing better to do. Sad as that is.
 132
 133 F3: Ugh! (laugh)
 134
 135 M3: No! Honestly! (.) Honestly (laugh)
 136 []
 137 F3: (laugh) Thanks a lot.
 138 []

- 139 M3: No, that's how it, I was just like,
 140 "Oh, she's cool. I'll hang out with her." You've got else to do freshman year. So
 141 you're like, yeah, it kept escalating from there.
 142
- 143 I: So, what kind of things do you guys do (.) like, when just hang out?
 144
- 145 F3: (pause) Watch TV (.) uh (.)
 146
- 147 M3: Oh (.) I try to get F3 to go running but she never does and (.) uh (whispers)
 148 I don't know, we usually just talk, like, she'll, she goes to work at the front desk in
 149 my dorm and I just go up there and talk to her (.) and uh. (.) What else (.) we
 150 always go to Wal-Mart together and we go to lunch.
 151
- 152 I: Ahh (.) Wal-Mart (.) the big outing.
 153
- 154 F3: Yeah (laugh)
 155 []
- 156 M3: It's a big deal.
 157
- 158 F3: Like, every weekend, "Let's go to Wal-Mart." (laugh)
 159
- 160 M3: Yeah. And we do stuff once a week, once every two weeks, like, going out (.) yeah.
 161 []
- 162 F3: Oh yeah, parties.
 163 Go out with him. But that's a lot harder to do because M3 has an I.D. now and he
 164 can go to the bars and I don't. So (.) he gets (.) so he leaves me. (pause) But that's
 165 okay, because I don't hang out with those people on the weekends (.) but during
 166 the week it's like (.) I mean, we see each other, like, hang out with each other a (.) a lot.
 167 []
- 168 M3: Two, three times a day.
 169 At least, probably.
 170
- 171 F3: Mm hmm.
 172
- 173 I: Alright, so you guys have a lot of interaction, a lot of
 174 []
- 175 M3: We call each other, like, I'm
 176 guessing double digits a day.
 177
- 178 F3: (laugh)
 179
- 180 I: (laugh)
 181
- 182 M3: Seriously. It's sad.
 183
- 184 I: So you never run out of things to talk about.

- 185
 186 F3: No! (laugh)
 187
 188 M3: (laugh) Very rarely.
 189
 190 F3: I don't ever
 191 []
 192 M3: And it's usually stupid stuff.
 193 []
 194 F3: Yeah! (.)
 195
 196 M3: It's nothing important. (.) I mean, F3's boyfriend. That took up an entire
 197 month.
 198
 199 F3: What?
 200
 201 M3: This last month. It's been nothing but, nothing but your boyfriend.
 202 []
 203 F3: Oh, yeah! Well (.)
 204
 205 M3: I'm not complaining, I'm just saying.
 206
 207 F3: Uhhh. (.) Yeah right, you're not complaining. (.) No, I'm just kidding
 208 (laugh)
 209
 210 I: So what kind of things do you guys have in common now then?
 211
 212 M3: (pause) We've got nothing in common.
 213 []
 214 F3: (laugh) No we don't. I think that's what
 215 our relationship strives on is our, like, our differences. Like, where would we be if
 216 I couldn't make fun of you and you couldn't make fun of me for being anal-
 217 retentive. We would have nothing to talk about. Like, that's like a basis of a
 218 conversation is like, making fun of each other. (.) (laugh)
 219
 220 M3: Pretty much, ya know. I mean, we're, we're a lot more alike than some
 221 people are but, I mean, like (pause) I don't know.
 222 []
 223 F3: We have so many differences.
 224
 225 M3: Yeah. (.) She (.) She's definitely into doing stuff right, definite, going
 226 home and doing homework, and studying. And I'm like, complete opposite of that.
 227 And uh (.) I try to get her to go out and do more physical activities, no, that's not
 228 happening. And, uh (.) I don't know.
 229
 230 I: Like, what kind of physical, like sports, or?

- 231
 232 M3: Yeah, like, I'm like, "Let's go running." "No, not with you. You're too
 233 competitive."
 234
 235 F3: (laugh)
 236
 237 M3: (laugh) She hates my competitive nature. She wants nothing to do with it.
 238
 239 F3: (laugh)
 240
 241 I: (laugh)
 242
 243 M3: And just, I mean, like, the stuff I do with the guys is completely different
 244 than the stuff I do with F3.
 245
 246 I: So how would you, how do you guys say this friendship is different from
 247 other relationships or other friendships you guys have?
 248
 249 M3: First off, like, her being a girl (.) is really, well, yeah, we all know you're a
 250 F3: [Mm hmm]
 251 girl, F3, (.) it's really annoying that uh, everybody thinks we're dating.
 252 []
 253 F3: (laugh) (laugh) Yeah.
 254
 255 M3: Everybody. Everybody thinks we're dating and it's like, Naw, I've had,
 256 like, ya know, I've had to tell people no, like, countless number of times.
 257
 258 F3: And then you get the "Why not?" And (.)
 259 []
 260 M3: Yeah! Sort of thing. I mean, even both
 261 our parents or like (.) my sister's on my as- (.) the whole time because of (.) cause
 262 F3: [(laugh)]
 263 (.) she's like "Why are you not dating F3?" "I like F3." "Why don't you date F3?"
 264 F3: [(laugh)]
 265 I'm like, "No." No. Not gonna happen.
 266
 267 F3: Yup.
 268
 269 I: So your other, like, family relationships and stuff, they think it's a different
 270 kind of relationship?
 271
 272 F3: Yeah.
 273 []
 274 M3: Yeah. I don't know. My parents have only met F3, like, twice. So (.) my
 275 sister only met her once, so they don't really have that much basis to compare
 276 anything on.

277

278 F3: My, well, my parents never met M3, ya know. And, like, I came home and
 279 when I told my mom I was thinking about separating from my boyfriend, she was
 280 like, "What, are you going out with M3 now?" I was like, "No!" Ya know? "Why
 281 would you think that?" And so (.) that just kinda, I think (.) like, they don't see
 282 how we can be that close to someone of the opposite sex probably just because, (.)
 283 I don't know, ya know. I guess when you get older, the person who you marry
 284 becomes that kind of person to you, ya know. So to be in that kind of relationship
 285 and not have, like, a (.) dating relationship is odd.

286

287 I: Yeah.

288

289 M3: (pause) Did you just compare us to a married couple, cause that's not right!
 290

291 F3: (laugh) No! I compared (laugh)

292 []

293 M3: (laugh) Cause that's far from true (laugh). I could
 294 never, like, marry F3 cause she's so, like, demanding, like and like, even dating,
 295 like stuff you made Chris do was incredible and I would, I would shoot myself if I

296 F3: [(laugh)] [(See, I couldn't)]

297 (.) had to go through that stuff.

298

299 F3: I could never marry M3 because I wouldn't want him to be the father of my
 300 children. (laugh) Cause he would make them play competitive sports. And I would
 301 have to kill him. (laugh) So.

302

303 I: Okay. (.) So, you guys know your differences. That's good.

304

305 M3: Yeah.

306

307 I: Alright. Um (.) Can you tell me anything else about your friendship that is
 308 (.) unique to you guys?

309

310 F3: (pause) I don't (.) I've never, like, (.) never seen anybody with a friendship
 311 like ours.

312

313 M3: (.) I kinda (.) I mean, I kinda had a (.) I have another girl that I've, I've
 314 been friends with a lot longer (.) it's never been as deep (.) like, I've never known
 315 as much (.) as I know about F3, but it's weird. (.) She's also close to me. And I
 316 think more of a length of a friendship as opposed to how strong it is, it kinda feels
 317 like this and not like (.) I see her more as a sister than anything else, ya know?

318

319 I: Yeah. (.)

320

321 M3: So.

322

323 F3: yeah, it does, I mean (.)

324

325 M3: And F3 hates that because, now whenever she goes out dating I have to see
326 the guy before anything can happen and she hates it, but that's the way it is and
327 she's gonna have to learn to deal with it.

328

329 I: (laugh) So, it's the whole brother sister thing?

330

331 M3: Pretty much.

332

333 F3: Yeah, sorta like, twins.

334

335 M3: No.

336

337 F3: Except a lot different (laugh) ()

338

339 I: That look he just gave. (laugh)

340

341 F3: Just kidding, M3. (laugh)

342

343 M3: I know.

344

345 I: Alright, well, I don't have any more questions. Do you guys have anything
346 to add? Or (.) any questions for me?

347

348 F3: I don't think so.

349

350 M3: I'm good.

351

352 I: Alright. Great. Thanks.